FBIS DAILY REPORT

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OAPEC SECRETARY GENERAL ON OAPEC COUNCIL DECISIONS

JN131305Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0830 GMT 13 Dec JN

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 13 December--OAPEC Secretary General Dr 'Ali 'Atiqah held a press conference at the Abu Dhabi Hilton at 1000 today. At the outset Dr 'Atiqah affirmed that many of the oil and economic issues and the joint projects in these two fields are of equal importance with the oil price increase issue.

Dr 'Atiqah then began answering questions from the press. In reply to a question on support to be extended to the Arab company for building and repairing ships, Dr 'Atiqah said that a decision was adopted yesterday to support the company for the next 6 or 7 years. He added that support for the drydock comes at a time when such facilities are suffering from recession. Therefore, a method had to be found to support this company. Dr 'Atiqah stressed that the motives behind this project are primarily pan-Arab and not commercial.

On the unified Arab refining policy adopted by OAPEC's Ministerial Council yesterday and its objectives, Dr 'Atiqah said that as there are problems in selling oil byproducts, the Arab countries wish to refine part of their oil. However, oil-importing countries levy prohibitive taxes on refined oil. Therefore, it is necessary for the oil-exporting countries to unify their policies in order to resist the industrial countries' policies in this field.

Concerning the Arab refining capacity, Dr 'Atiqah said that the maximum required is 100 percent Arab refinement of their own oil. However, this remains a long-term objective. Arab countries may be able to refine 30 to 50 percent of their oil incrementally. Oil refining by the Arabs will occur gradually and will be fruitful for both the oil exporting and importing countries. We have no wish to harm any country's economy.

In reply to a question on whether the conference had decided on the question of Egypt's selling oil to Israel, Dr 'Atiqah said that this issue was not raised.

On the decision adopted at the At-Ta'if conference on determining a long-term strategy to face changes in the international market, Dr 'Atiqah said that OPEC's strategy is to study the oil-exporting countries' positions on oil export. Even though OPEC and OAPEC have common objectives where oil is concerned, OAPEC's objectives are to develop oil production and drilling and to unify oil policies, to enable oil-exporting countries to develop their oil production both for sales purposes and for labor employment.

On whether the oil-exporting countries have adopted a policy to limit export of crude oil in case oil-importing countries do not limit their refining capacities, Dr 'Atiqah said that nothing of the sort was adopted and this must not be considered a crisis. Initially, coordination must take place among oil-exporting countries to determine the relations between selling crude oil and oil refining. If agreement is reached on the need to increase the exporting countries' refining capacity, an understanding can be reached with oil-importing countries. Oil refineries under construction will not affect the market situation for 5 years yet.

In reply to a question on whether agreement has been reached at yesterday's meeting on a unified policy among the seven Arab OPEC members on the issue of oil prices, to be discussed at the next OPEC meeting in Abu Dhabi, Dr 'Atiqah denied that this had taken place.

He said that the policies of the seven Arab OPEC members do not [word indistinct] a separate group, which will be imposed on the other OPEC members. The oil price issue does not interest the Arab countries alone. It is of interest to all oil-exporting countries. There are large oil-exporting parties which are not OPEC members. Arab countries produce only a third of the total world oil output tut, regrettably, they export the greatest part of this production.

Dr 'Atiqah expressed regret that the world allots importance to oil prices at a time when it does not heed price increases of other commodities, such as consumer goods and raw materials. He went on to say that oil represents no more than 10 percent of the world economy.

On the time needed for the unified Arab refining policy to achieve a capacity of refining 40 percent of Arab oil in Arab refineries, Dr 'Atiqah said that the question is one of time and we hope to reach that stage in the eighties.

GENERAL COMMITTEE FOR ARAB-EUROPEAN DIALOG ISSUES STATEMENT

JN121423Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 12 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--A joint statement has been issued following the meetings of the fourth session of the General Committee for Arab-European dialog, recently held in Damascus.

The statement says the two sides exchanged viewpoints on various aspects of Arab-European cooperation in the political, economic, social and cultural fields. The two sides reviewed the Middle East situation and agreed that continuation of the Arab-Zionist conflict jeopardizes peace and security in the Middle East and in the world at large.

The two sides reiterated their belief that Europe's security is linked with stability and security in the Mediterranean and the Arab area. The statement emphasizes that the Palestine question is the heart of the area's crisis. In this regard, the two sides stressed that establishing a comprehensive and just settlement in the area is not only a vital issue for the Arabs but also a demanding requirement for the nine European countries, particularly in light of the very special relations tying Europe to the Middle East.

The European side reiterated its belief that a just and comprehensive settlement should be based on UN Resolution No 242 and on the principles announced by the European Council in 1977.

The Arab side stressed that continuation of Israeli occupation of the Arab territories has serious implications for peace and security in the Middle East and world peace as well. The Arab side outlined its stand toward the Palestine question, emphasizing that a just solution must enable the Palestinian people to return to and establish an independent state on their own homeland.

Regarding cooperation between the two sides in the search for a comprehensive settlement, the Arab side explained that it is time for the European countries to recognize the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This fact has already been recognized by all Arab countries, most of the worlds' countries and the United Nations. The Arab side expressed hope that the European side will positively respond to this during the forthcoming UN General Assembly meeting.

The statement said that the European side will seriously consider the factors outlined by the Arab side during the General Committee meetings. The European side promised to forward those factors to the European governments concerned.

The two sides announced that they adhere to the General Assembly resolutions holding that Israeli measures taken in the occupied Arab territories are illegal and seriously restrict and hamper international efforts to establish a just and lasting Middle East peace. The statement firmly denounced Israel's persistence in fleshing out Zionist settlements in the occupied Arab etrritories.

Regarding the situation in Lebanon, the two sides stressed the need to restore peace in Lebanon. They expressed hope that all the Lebanese people will support President Ilyas Sarkis without reservation, as he represents Lebanese legitimacy. The two sides reaffirmed that national unity in Lebanon is very important for securing Lebanon's independence, its unity and territorial integrity. The two sides expressed unreserved support for this.

The Arab side reaffirmed its rejection of settling Palestinians in Lebanon, since this plan has been rejected by the Lebanese, the Palestinians and all the Arabs. The European side stressed that such a plan is illogical and has never been raised by the nine European countries.

The two sides announced that they will jointly prepare for the fifth session of the General Committee on the assigned date.

PFLP OFFICIAL LECTURES ON PALESTINIAN AFFAIRS

JN131956Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 13 December--The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] has reaffirmed its continued struggle for the liberation of all Palestinian land.

In a lecture at the American University of Beirut, Bassam Abu Sharif, member of the PFLP Political Bureau, said that the front fights for restoring Palestine to the body of the Arab nation. He added that the Arab nation's struggle with the Zionist enemy is a struggle of existence and not of borders, because the enemy seeks to control the region militarily, politically, culturally and economically. The enemy also aspires to divide the Arab nations into ministates.

The Palestinian official then talked about the Camp David conspiracy, saying that As-Sadat has, for the first time since the presence of the Zionist entity, recorded recognition of an entity rejected by the Arab and Palestinian masses for many years. He announced that the results of this agreement will be very serious unless the Arab masses and their revolutionary movement take a responsible stand against it.

Abu Sharif then praised the Iraqi-Syrian Joint National Action Charter, describing it as an important development in confronting the enemy and the Camp David conspiracy.

PLO OFFICIAL: CAMP DAVID ACCORDS ARE 'CALL FOR WAR'

NC132245Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 13 Dec 78 NC

[Interview granted to Voice of Palestine by head of the PLO Political Department Abu al-Lutf after his return from UN General Assembly meetings--recorded, date not given]

[Excerpt] [Question] Brother Abu al-Lutf, in connection with Camp David and the current negotiations, when we heard reports about the Egyptian-Israeli-American negotiations, it was clear that there was an attempt to underline the fact that there are big differences between Egypt and Israel on certain articles of the anticipated agreement.

Now matters have changed and there is great optimism that the agreement will be signed very soon. What is your assessment of the course of the Egyptian-Zionist negotiations now--not the question of whether the agreement will be signed, but regarding the value of what these two sides will achieve on the issue of peace and war in this area?

[Answer] U.S. policy is aimed at gaining a foothold in the Arab area. It will only gain a foothold by establishing Zionist occupation of the Arab territories; thus a problem, namely the Palestinian issue, will remain. U.S. policy is that Israel was created in order to expand and that it was created to carry out aggression against the Palestinian people and the neighboring Arab countries. This is the policy that the United States continues to follow. However, despite all this, we believe that these differences are fabricated.

There are obviously some who raise the problem of linkage between the Sinai agreement and the West Bank and Gaza agreement and no doubt the linkage is the problem. The truth of the matter is that we have rejected all the details and contents of the Camp David accords. They want public opinion to (?believe) that they have been able to progress in rectifying matters in the agreement's articles. However, the truth is that the contents of these agreements violate the national rights of the Palestinian people.

Actually, there is no guarantee of the Palestinian people's sovereignty over their land or over this part of their land--the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Moreover, there is actually no guarantee that Israel will withdraw from all Arab territories. There is no guarantee that at the end of the 5-year period, Israel will relinquish these territories, give up the settlements and the construction of more settlements.

Furthermore, there is no mention of Jerusalem or of its return to the Palestinian or the Arab side. Moreover, there is actually no mention of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. There is no mention of establishing an independent Palestinian state. There is no mention of the right to self-determination, or of returning the Palestinian refugees to their homes.

These are a few of the reasons we have rejected the Camp David accords. The most important reason is that we reject this kind of U.S. solution to the Middle East issue. All parties concerned, particularly the PLO, must participate in every conference, held under the UN aegis and in accordance with the UN resolutions. Moreover, the friendly Soviet Union must participate, because the peace must also be guaranteed by the Soviet Union. It is not enough that the United States guarantee such a peace in the area. We regard the United States as an opponent, not a mediator. The United States persistently stands with Israel.

Therefore, we say that the signing will take place but the question is a matter of (?bluff). As for the question of altering and changing the Camp David accords, even if that were to occur, it would not improve the substance, because Israel is not ready for a just and permanent peace that could be acceptable to the Arabs on the minimal level of Arab demands. We can thus say that peace is not available in these agreements; in fact, they are a call for war.

PLO REPRESENTATIVE RECEIVES DIPLOMATIC STATUS IN AUSTRIA

JN1314122 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1035 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Vienna, 13 December--The Foreign Affairs Committee at the Austrian Parliament has agreed by an overwhelming majority to grant Dr Ghazi Husayn, PLO representative in Vienna, diplomatic status, so that he can benefit from all diplomatic rights similar to those held by members of other international organizations and missions in Vienna.

The committee also approved, at the suggestion of the Austrian Government, the grant of all diplomatic authority to Dr Husayn, in his capacity as the official PLO representative in Austria.

VOP: FEDAYEEN SET OFF CHARGES IN KIRYAT ARBA', SHILO

NC1321012 Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1400 GMT 13 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Timed explosive charges were set off today in the main supermarket in Kiryat Arba' near Hebron and in a store in the settlement of Shilo, which was recently established by the enemy in the Hebron area. The enemy suffered great human and material losses.

The Palestinian military spokesman has said that yesterday afternoon, one of our special groups placed timed explosive charges in the main supermarket in Kiryat Arba' near Hebron. The charges went off at 1455 yesterday, with a very loud noise heard in all parts of the settlement. On hearing the noise, a large number of army and police forces hastened to the scene, surrounded it and detained scores of Palestinians in the area.

As a result of the explosion, a large number of the enemy inside the supermarket were hit, a large part of the supermarket's contents was damaged and one of its walls cracked.

It should be noted that the supermarket was the target of a similar operation on 26 November in the same settlement.

Moreover, another group of our revolutionaries placed an explosive charge inside a store in the commercial market in the Shilo settlement--one of the settlements that have recently been established by the enemy in the Hebron area. The charge went off yesterday at 1405, causing a number of casualties in the ranks of the Zionist settlers and completely destroying the store.

A force of borderguards and police surrounded the area after the explosion and began a large-scale search for other charges. Moreover, stores in the explosion's vicinity were emptied of their Zionist settlers. Enemy police began to investigate the operation.

KUWAIT

MINISTER REFUSES TO COMMENT ON OIL SUPPLY TO IRAN

LD131520Y Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Kuwait--'Abd al-Aziz Husayn, minister of state for cabinet affairs and acting foreign minister, has refused to comment on reports that Kuwait is supplying Iran with refined petroleum. He has revealed that two Iranian petroleum officials visited Kuwait 2 days ago, but he regretted that he cannot disclose anything about the nature of this visit or the subjects discussed during it.

Husayn informed journalists that Kuwait has placed a maximum ceiling on petroleum production. It is not to exceed 2 million barrels daily. He said that Kuwait's production has not reached this ceiling for 2 years, and that average petroleum production during the past 2 years has been about 1.7 million barrels daily. He went on to say that Kuwait is bound to both long-term and short-term contracts. He said: "Our sales fulfill our requirements and commitments and we are not enthusiastic about increasing our production."

AL-ANBA': KUWAIT TO INTRODUCE NEW PROPOSALS ON OIL PRICING

LD141028Y Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0700 GMT 14 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] Kuwait--AL-ANBA' reports today that at OPEC's forthcoming meeting in Abu Dhabi on Saturday, Kuwait will introduce a new proposal for petroleum pricing based on linking its price with the prices of manufactured goods, the rate of inflation and the movement of the dollar--whether it goes up or down.

[Algiers APS in Arabic at 0700 GMT on 11 December adds: The paper adds that the new formula is a compromise on the various conflicting views on the question of prices. The new formula provides for raising oil prices by 10 percent in 2 installments: 5 percent during the first 6 months of 1979 and 5 percent during the second half of the year.]

CROWN PRINCE'S GULF TOUR LAUDED AS 'HISTORIC'

LD140811Y Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 12 Dec 78 pp 1, 19 LD

[Editorial: "Qatar in the Train of Unity"]

[Excerpts] Today the historic Kuwaiti tour begins its fourth stage, when Crown Prince Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah moves on to the United Arab Emirates.

As this tour continues, the Kuwaiti initiative on the gulf coast also continues, bringing dreams closer to reality. After Saudi Arabia and Bahrain, yesterday's meeting was with sisterly Qatar. There the voice of unity rose above all other voices and His Highness Amir Shaykh Khalifah joined his brother Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah in the quest for the great goal: gulf unity.

While a few days before this tour began we thought that the creation of such integral unity was a mere illusion, we were soon to see the illusion vanish and hands joined in unity and love, reflecting the depth of ties linking these sisterly states. Although this was logical, it went beyond all expectations, as the crown prince told the diplomatic corps in Doha yesterday.

In fact, this great response by the State of Qatar, and on such a large scale, is part of the great historical development which the gulf region is currently witnessing.

The amir of the sisterly state, Shaykh Khalifah, has removed all obstacles, allowing this tide of gulf unity to continue its advance and development. When the agreements were signed in Doha yesterday, it appeared as if the river had resumed flowing along its course and as if the skippers of the gulf ship were again guiding the vessel on a new, corrected course.

If this has been achieved in the Saudi Arabian Kingdom, Bahrain and Qatar, it will no doubt be achieved in the UAE as well. This would strengthen our belief and determination to persist with the wise and historic message that we have carried from Kuwait to the various parts of the gulf, a message that will be enriched by our brothers, whose desire to work for unity is no less than ours and who share with us the aspiration to establish a single regime in a single region.

UAE

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH VISITING KUWAITI CROWN PRINCE

JN140708Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0540 GMT 14 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 December--This morning UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan visited the distinguished guest, Kuwaiti Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, at the latter's residence in Al-Musharraf palace.

KUWAITI-UAE COMMITTEE HOLDS SECOND SESSION ON COOPERATION

JN131806Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1720 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 December--The joint committee formed yesterday by the UAE and Kuwait held a second meeting this evening at Al-Musharraf Palace. The meeting lasted for about an hour. Attending the meeting for the UAE side were Shaykh Sultan ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, minister of economy and trade; Rashid 'Abdallah an-Nu'aymi, minister of state for foreign affairs; Nasir an-Nuways, director of the Abu Dhabi Fund for Development of Arab economy; 'Abd al-Malik al-Hamr, president of the monitary board; and Muhammad Sultan 'Abdallah, UAE ambassador in Kuwait. Attending on the Kuwaiti side were 'Abd ar-Rahman Salim al-Atiqi, minister of finance; Jasim Khalid al-Marzuq, minister of education; Rashid ar-Rashid, under secretary of the Foreign Ministry; and Qasim 'Umar al-Yaqut, Kuwaiti ambassador in Abu Dhabi. The two sides discussed bilateral relations and cooperation in economics, culture and information.

QATARI OIL MINISTER MEETS PRESIDENT, MAKES STATEMENT

JN131814Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1730 GMT 12 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 December--Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah al-Thani, the Qatari minister of finance and oil, said following his meeting with UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan that he conveyed a message to President Zayid from his brother the Qatari amir, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad al-Thani. The Qatari oil minister explained that this message deals with means of further developing bilateral relations and with other current issues of common interest.

ERITREAN DELEGATION MEETS WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS

JN131739Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1715 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 December--The Eritrean delegation, headed by (Al-Amin Muhammad Sa'id), director of foreign relations of the Eritrean Liberation Front-Revolutionary Council, today held talks with Foreign Ministry officials. The delegation, which is currently visiting the UAE, outlined recent developments and the political and military situations in Eritrea.

YEMEN--YAR

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO OMAN

Joint Statement Issued

JN131754Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text of joint YAR-Omani statement issued on YAR President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih's 11-13 December visit to the Sultanate of Oman]

[Text] In response to an invitation from his brother Majesty Qabus ibn Sa'id, the sultan of Oman, His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the YAR Armed Forces, paid an official visit to the Sultanate of Oman from 11 to 13 Muharram 1399 Hegira, corresponding to 11 - 13 December 1978. (?President Salih was accompanied by a high-level delegation). In an atmosphere of amity and brotherly understanding, the two sides held official talks on bilateral relations and questions of mutual interest. The two sides' views were identical on all matters discussed.

The two sides asserted the significance of the principle of nonintervention in others internal affairs. They also condemned all forms of subversion and foreign agentry. The two sides affirmed the need to work for keeping the Arabian Peninsula area and the gulf area free of international disputes and to preserve Arab solidarity, as well as to exert efforts in eliminating Arab differences, in a spirit of responsibility and mutual confidence.

Regarding bilateral relations, the two sides affirmed the two political leaderships' determination to continue to strengthen bilateral cooperation in various fields, including economics, culture and information.

His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih expressed his profound gratitude for the warm, cordial welcome accorded him and his delegation by the people and the Government of the Sultanate of Oman. His excellency also expressed his admiration for and appreciation of the progress achieved by the Sultanate of Oman, under its wise patriotic leadership led by his brother Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id. His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih wished the fraternal Omani people further progress and prosperity.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id lauded the blessed steps achieved by the fraternal YAR people in development, in establishing patriotic institutions, protecting the Islamic doctrine and the traditions and norms of Yemeni society. He wished the YAR people and government further success and progress under the leadership of his brother President Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih has extended an official invitation to his brother Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id to visit the YAR. His majesty accepted the invitation gratefully, the date of the visit to be fixed later.

Grants Interview to Omani Paper

JN132058Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text of interview granted on 11 December in Oman by President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, to Sulayman al-Qudah, editor of the Oman daily--read by announcer]

[Text] Question: Your Excellency, your meeting with His Majesty Sultan Qabus has crowned the benevolent meetings between the Sultanate of Oman and fraternal Yemen. How would Your Excellency evaluate Omani-Yemeni relations and means for their further development? What are Your Excellency's impressions, in light of your first visit to the sultanate?

Answer: I am delighted at visiting the fraternal Sultanate of Oman and meeting with His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, to become acquainted with the fraternal Omani people's achievements and to consult with his majesty on ways of attaining better conditions and prosperity for the two fraternal peoples, and for our Arab and Islamic nations. I deeply appreciate this country's great achievements in development, progress and stability. I would not be exaggerating if I confirmed that Yemeni-Omani relations are entering a new, idealistic and strong phase. The two countries' political leaderships are eager to further develop these relations in all fields.

Question: This area is subject to foreign conspiracies and plans carried out by neighboring Arab countries. Fraternal Yemen has and is still facing such conspiracies. How does Your Excellency view coordination among the states of this area in confronting such conspiracies?

Answer: We are working for collective and bilateral coordination among the states in this area to prevent all foreign perils and threats. I can say that our brothers are eager to cooperate and coordinate, so we can remove all reason for differences and tension.

Question: The Red Sea and the African Horn areas are witnessing blatant and direct interference from the Soviet Union and Cuba, with support from the government in Aden. They all work within a plan aimed at this area's security. What is the YAR's stand toward this interference?

Answer: The YAR firmly rejects all interference in the domestic affairs of states in this area. The YAR is struggling to keep the Red Sea and the African Horn free from international conflict.

Question: The Arab nation is currently passing through a very critical phase, particularly following the Camp David agreements and the Baghdad Arab summit. Where does the YAR stand on current events in the Arab arena, the Camp David agreements, and the Baghdad Arab summit resolutions, especially in light of recent developments?

Answer: We do not outbid the confrontation and support states nor the sacrifices of Egypt, Syria and the Palestinian resistance, which fought to restore the occupied Arab territories and to establish the Palestinian homeland. There is no doubt that they have all suffered great sacrifices. We favor the Rabat summit resolutions and support any peaceful settlement that might achieve our common goals. At the same time, we stand against all measures aimed at isolating a large Arab country like Egypt. We refuse to turn the Arab-Israeli conflict into an Arab conflict. Our stand toward the Israeli enemy is inalienable and cannot be changed.

Question: Your Excellency recently visited Saudi Arabia and the UAE. What are the reasons behind your current tour and what have you achieved thus far?

Answer: The YAR has very close and special ties with Saudi Arabia. The same is true with our brothers in the UAE and all states in the area. We attach great importance to continuing the contacts and coordination between the political leaderships in the Arabian Peninsula and the gulf.

Question: The YAR is currently leading its development battle. How would Your Excellency evaluate the current achievements within the 5-year development plan?

Answer: The YAR has achieved many goals. However, we are still working to fulfill many other aims. We have already paved many roads, built several schools and hospitals, and reached a number of goals in agriculture and industry. In short, we have implemented a great part of the 5-year development plan. This is due to the patience, alertness and cooperation of the Yemeni people and their willing support of their national leadership. Here we gratefully mention the great support offered by our brothers in Saudi Arabia, the gulf states, the friendly states and the international development organizations, who cooperate with us in development and construction.

Makes Statement on Visit

JN131743Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Prior to his departure from the Moscat Airport, brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, made the following statement: My visit to the fraternal Sultanate of Oman has had a permanent effect on me, giving me the firm impression that what has been achieved by the fraternal people of Oman, under the leadership of their patriotic government and His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, is great. In the YAR, we regard this achievement with pride and admiration. We and the area's peoples are pleased at this achievement, because these peoples are now looking forward to development in order to fight backwardness. [passage indistinct] San'a' and Muscat are seeking, together with the states of this area, to create better understanding and fuller cooperation. These will be achieved, God willing, because of the efforts of the brother Arab kings and presidents. There are historic responsibilities that all Arab states shoulder collectively under current international circumstances. These responsibilities can be summed up as the need to find a practical and effective formula for preserving Arab solidarity.

Returns Home

JN131733Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Excerpts] In God's care and attention, brother Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, and the accompanying delegation returned to San'a' at 1500 today from the fraternal Sultanate of Oman at the end of his official 2-day visit.

Lt Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic and commander in chief of the armed forces, left Muscat International Airport at 1200 today. He was accorded a grand popular and official sendoff. Leading those who saw him off were His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, the sultan of Oman; members of the royal family; ministers; high-ranking armed forces and policy officers; members of the diplomatic corps accredited in Muscat; and the YAR ambassador in Oman and the embassy staff.

AS-SADAT HOLDS MEETING TO DISCUSS DOMESTIC ISSUES

NC131940Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 13 Dec 78 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat held a meeting this afternoon at the republican palace in 'Abidin to discuss a number of national domestic action issues and problems of concern to the masses. The meeting, which lasted about 1 hour, was attended by Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sulayman Mutwalli, Housing Minister Mustafa al-Hifnawi, Director of the President's Office for National Democratic Party Affairs Ahmad 'Abd al-Akhir, Supply Minister Nasif Tahun, and Governor of Cairo Sa'd Ma'mun.

AS-SADAT SENDS MESSAGES TO VARIOUS ARAB LEADERS

NC131903Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 13 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali met this evening with the ambassadors of Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE. He also met with the charge d'affaires of Oman. During these meetings Ghali explained Egypt's views on the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations and Egypt's position, which aims at achieving a comprehensive and just settlement to the crisis. Ghali also handed them messages from President Anwar as-Sadat to the kings and presidents of these states.

The Saudi ambassador in Cairo stated that because of the importance of President Anwar as-Sadat's message, he decided to deliver it personally to King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. He said that the message contains the Egyptian views on the need for linkage between the Egyptian-Israeli agreement and the future of the West Bank and Gaza. The message also affirms the clear line which Egypt has previously announced in this respect.

Tomorrow, Dr Butrus Ghali is scheduled to hand messages from President Anwar as-Sadat to the ambassadors of a number of friendly African states.

AS-SADAT RECEIVES NOBEL PRIZE, MAKES STATEMENT

NC131301Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Dec 78 NC

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat has received Presidential Assistant Sayyid Mar'i, who handed his excellency the Nobel Peace Prize and the certificate of appreciation which goes with it. President as-Sadat donated the value of his prize toward the construction of Mit Abu al-Kawm village.

Answering newsmen's questions, President as-Sadat said that he is happy to receive the prize because of its true significance. He added that he hopes that his efforts will be crowned with the signing of the peace treaty on the peak of Mount Sinai before representatives of the three religions, in view of what this will mean to future generations.

Asked if he still hopes that the treaty will be signed on schedule--that is, on 17 December--he said: This does not alter the matter much, whether the signing takes place before or after 17 December. This is because agreement will be achieved sooner or later.

Asked about Mr Begin's announcement that it will be possible to sign the agreement before 17 December, the president said: I have not heard of this before; I hope this is true. We are prepared for this; however, this depends on the response of the other side.

Concerning the venue for the signing of the agreement, the president said: I insist on the signing on Mount Sinai; let us not differ about the signing venue, because I insist on signing the agreement in this place, regardless of the results.

As regards the letters exchanged between Egypt and Israel, the president said: Let us wait until Cyrus Vance comes to Cairo.

DEFENSE MINISTER WATCHES ARMORED CORPS MANEUVERS

NC131422Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 13 Dec 78 NC

[Excerpts] Cairo, 13 December--Minister of defense and war production and commander in chief of the armed forces, Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali, and Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Maj Gen Ahmad Badawi Sayyid Ahmad today watched an important stage of the big training exercise which is being carried out by one of the armored units in the 2d Field Army sector and assisted by elements of the air force, air defense corps, air (?reconnaissance) forces, and army artillery units.

Lt Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali followed from an observation point the movement of the armored unit, its clash with and penetration of the enemy defenses. This stage was successfully accomplished, confirming the combat capability of the units which has resulted from practical training by the participating elements over a period of a year. Live ammunition was used in the exercise.

This training exercise began 5 days ago. Maj Gen Ahmad Badawi and the commanders of corps and formations have watched from the beginning. The exercise will end tomorrow.

AKHBAR AL-YAWM: ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS POPULATED BY RUSSIA

LD131707Y Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic 9 Dec 78 p 7 LD

[By 'Abd al-Hamid 'Abd al-Ghani]

[Excerpts] On the day which President Carter insists that the peace treaty should be signed--17 December--Israel will build new settlements and expand or "consolidate" existing ones in the West Bank and Gaza.

This was the decision Menahem Begin declared before his departure for Oslo to receive the Nobel Prize.

There can be no statement more contradictory to "peace" than this statement or decision because the matter is in fact more serious than just that of building new settlements or expanding existing ones in the West Bank and Gaza. The real problem is that this decision categorically proves that Israel does not wish or intend to interpret or implement the treaty it will sign except in the same way it interprets and implements the Camp David accords. Thus if the Israeli prime minister interprets the Camp David accords to mean allowing Israel to build settlements after 17 December and if this is his interpretation of the most important agreement worked out in contemporary history--the agreement that has been the focus of attention throughout the world and like which no other agreement or treaty has been so widely debated--then how would we or the world expect him to interpret or implement any treaty or agreement such as the peace treaty that we are sincerely striving to reach?

The signing of a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel is in the views of Egypt, the United States and the world a great step which aims at ultimately solving the entire Middle East problem and establishing a comprehensive peace throughout the area. The first condition for the achievement of peace is the liberation of the occupied Arab territories, that is, ending Israeli occupation of Sinai as a first step and other occupied Arab territories as the following steps.

This is what we and the world understand from the peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. But the Israeli prime minister, along with Minister of Agriculture Sharon and the majority of the Israeli Cabinet and the Israeli Knesset, believe that once the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations are over and regardless of whether an agreement on a treaty has been reached by the 17 December deadline, Israel will be free to build new settlements and consolidate existing ones from the day following the deadline.

Even if no agreement is reached and no signing takes place during the next few days Menahem Begin has decided that 17 December is the last date for suspending building settlements in accordance with the undertaking he made at Camp David. After sundown on that day Israel will resume building new settlements in accordance with its plans.

The Israeli Government decided to pursue this path despite President Carter's public warnings at his press conferences that the Camp David accords do not tally with the action being taken by Israel.

There is a very wide gap between what President Carter says at his press conferences and what Begin says and decides at cabinet meetings, decisions which he and Sharon go on implementing. In fact Begin's statements are the complete opposite of those of Carter.

According to Israel the problem is the insufficient number of Israelis willing to live in settlements built on Arab lands. Therefore, great overt and covert efforts are now being made to bring in Jews from the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union has been, still is and will remain the main provider of Jews fit for agricultural work and for residence in Israeli settlements. Every time Israel needs more of this type of Jew it will not find them in Europe or in the United States but among the Jews of the Soviet Union.

A few days ago certain sources said that 28,000 Jews have emigrated from Russia to Israel during the period since diplomatic relations between Moscow and Tel Aviv were broken. Thus the Soviet Union will remain the primary or the only source for further Jewish immigration to Israel until the number of Jews in the West Bank and Gaza becomes greater than the number of Arab inhabitants. It will then be possible to hold elections and determine the future as Israel wishes.

What is important and serious is not only the fact that after a few days Israel will go ahead with plans to colonize the rest of the Palestinian territory but also the fact that Menahem Begin's methods and the tactics pursued by Israeli policy raise doubts about Israel's intentions regarding the agreements and treaties it concludes. While we want the road to peace to be clear Israel wants it to be ambiguous so that peace will be lost and, as a result, Israel can achieve its old ambitions and objectives.

SADDAM HUSAYN ENDS MOSCOW VISIT, COMMUNIQUE ISSUED

For a Moscow TASS text of the communique on the visit to the Soviet Union by Saddam Husayn, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, see the "Middle East & North Africa" section of the 14 December Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

SADDAM HUSAYN ARRIVES ON VISIT TO CUBA

JN140928Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0730 GMT 14 Dec 78 JN

[Excerpt] Havana, 14 December--Saddam Husayn, Arab Socialist Ba'th Party assistant secretary general and Revolution Command Council vice chairman, arrived here at dawn today at the head of a delegation on a visit of several days to Cuba at the invitation of the Cuban Government and Communist Party [PCC].

Saddam Husayn was accorded a popular and official reception at Jose Marti International Airport in Havana. Among those present to welcome Saddam Husayn were Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Secretariat of the PCC Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers; Raul Castro Ruz, second secretary of the Secretariat of the PCC Central Committee, first vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers and Revolutionary Armed Forces minister; members of the PCC Central Committee Politburo; ministers; Iraqi Ambassador to Cuba Anwar Sabri; and heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions accredited to Cuba.

PRESIDENT AL-BAKR RECEIVES SOVIET OFFICIAL

JN131407Y Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr at 1100 today received at his office at the presidential palace a delegation of the Soviet-Iraqi friendship society. The delegation is headed by Prokofyev, chairman of the Soviet-Iraqi Friendship Society.

President al-Bakr welcomed the guest delegation and wished them a happy stay in Iraq. Prokofyev highlighted the great achievements of Iraq, and expressed gratitude and appreciation for the warm welcome accorded the delegation.

The meeting was attended by Ghanim 'Abd al-Jalil, member of the Revolution Command Council, and Dr Najih Muhammad Khalil, chairman of the Iraqi-Soviet Friendship Society.

IRAQI-AUSTRIAN STATEMENT ISSUED AFTER OFFICIAL VISIT

JN132116Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 2040 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 13 December--Iraq and Austria have asserted that a just and lasting peace cannot be established in the Middle East without the Zionist withdrawal from all the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the Palestinian Arab people's rights. This came in a press statement issued here today at the end of the visit Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf paid to Austria.

The press statement said that the talks Ma'ruf held with Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger were conducted in a cordial atmosphere and tackled the friendship and cooperation relations linking the two countries. The relation between the two countries and scopes of promoting these relations were also discussed.

The statement (?said the) talks held between Bruno Kreisky and Taha Muhi ad-Din Ma'ruf centered on international issues of common interest and the situation in the Middle East in particular, as well as on bilateral relations and ways of promoting them.

The statement stressed that the Iraqi and Austrian sides observed with satisfaction the development of the existing friendship and cooperation between the two countries, and that they expressed their intention to exert more efforts to bolster the cordial relations between the two governments and peoples.

During the visit, talks were held between technical experts of both sides and dealt with economic, trade and technical relations. Ways and means of promoting and diversifying these relations and increasing cooperation were also discussed. The talks also touched on affairs related to trade, technology and tourism.

The Iraqi and Austrian sides also approved minutes relating to these topics. They also expressed their satisfaction over the results of the visit Ma'ruf paid to Austria, something which will effectively contribute to consolidating the relations of understanding between the two countries.

The vice president seized the opportunity to express again his deep gratitude for the generous hospitality and welcome accorded him and the delegation accompanying him during their stay in the Austrian capital.

PLANNING MINISTER ON IRAQI-SYRIAN ECONOMIC UNITY

JN131057Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 13 December--'Adnan Husayn, Revolution Command Council member and planning minister, has asserted that Iraq and Syria constitute one economic region and that both possess huge natural and human resources. He said: We must draw up adequate development plans to utilize these resources in order to benefit the interests of the two countries.

Husayn said that the relationship between Iraq and Syria is complete merger and cohesion in the various fields aimed at achieving overall unity. He added that the unity between the two countries is one which we could surpass the traditional and limited measures--how much we take and how much we give. Unity is bound to achieve general privileges for the unified society reflecting the aspirations and hopes of the two peoples toward the unity.

This came in press statements published in ATH-THAWRAH here today.

The planning minister said that the economic action, which is based on a specific political program provided for in the charter, is concerned with building a well-established material base through effective linkage between the popular interests and the productive sectors in the two countries.

This, the minister added, dictates that we must utilize all the natural and material capabilities available in one country in great economic projects that will meet the needs of both countries. He added: This makes it incumbent upon us to achieve integration in the planning of economic projects.

The planning minister dealt with the meetings of the joint Iraqi-Syrian economic cooperation committee. He said that it was agreed to develop the methods and unify the periods of the yearly and 5-year plans.

KING GIVES INTERVIEW, HOLDS TALKS WITH GISCARD IN PARIS

French TV Interview

JN131914Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Recorded dispatch by Paris correspondent 'Adil Malik]

[Text] In an interview with French television Channel One at noon today, His Majesty King Husayn asserted that the role France can perform in the achievement of a just and durable peace in the Middle East is very important, since this role is part of the profound understanding by France of the necessary conditions to achieve such a just and durable peace.

His majesty said he believes that France and the rest of the European states have a primary role in the process of making the comprehensive peace in the area--a peace which should naturally embrace all the issues of the dispute existing in the area. No separate solution can bring the real peace. We want a peace that guarantees all the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and regains Arab sovereignty over Arab Jerusalem. This framework of settlement is in harmony with all the international resolutions issued by the UN Security Council, particularly resolutions 242 and 338. This is our conception of the solution that should be achieved in our area.

Asked about the identity of Jordanian-French views, his majesty said: I have always been touched by President Giscard's profound understanding of the Middle East issue in all its aspects. He always voices France's readiness to exert every effort to reach a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Our views were fully identical on the nature of this peace, which should be comprehensive and just.

Asked about his majesty's visualization of the future of the Egyptian-Israeli talks, his majesty said: I believe that any separate solution and any kind of peace that is not comprehensive cannot resolve the problems of our area, because the Middle East issues as a whole do not concern Egypt and Israel alone. Primarily, the rights of the Palestinian people must be taken into consideration, because these people have been suffering for a long time. Positive developments toward peace can be taken in the area not only with regard to the present generation but to coming generations as well.

Asked what will happen if a separate peace is signed and what will happen in case this peace is not signed, His Majesty King Husayn said: I cannot predict these matters. However, what I can say as far as the Arab world is concerned, particularly since I recently attended the Baghdad Arab summit conference, is that what we Arabs are looking for is the just, comprehensive and durable peace that requires Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab areas occupied in 1967, including the Arab city of Jerusalem, and recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinians, particularly their right to self-determination in all freedom. Resolving all aspects of the Palestinian issue in implementation of the UN resolutions in this connection is also required.

Asked whether he discussed with President Giscard d'Estaing the possibility of calling again for reconvening the Geneva conference, his majesty said: I exchanged with President Giscard d'Estaing views on all aspects of the Middle East issue. In our endeavor toward just and comprehensive peace, we believe that France can perform a great role in this connection.

This role might be within the framework of the Geneva conference of within the framework of the UN Security Council and the implementation of its numerous resolutions, particularly Resolutions 242 and 338. The implementation of the UN Security Council resolutions can constitute a staging point toward a just and durable peace. The participation in the solution should come not from the United States along but from the Soviet Union, our friends in Europe, and all those interested in peace.

Asked about the nature of Jordanian-Palestinian relations, his majesty said: Our stands have always been firm on the side of the issue of the Palestinian people. These people have suffered a great deal because of the injustice inflicted on them. They are now demanding full rights and freedom in their homeland and the exercising of their right to self-determination. Our goal is to work for finding a healthy, just and comprehensive settlement.

Asked about the visit of his majesty to the Vatican, his majesty said: I am happy to meet with the Holy See. We will discuss our joint hopes for the future. We will discuss with his holiness the issue of Jerusalem and the Palestinian issue. We will brief his holiness on the dangerous situation confronting those who believe in God. When we speak about Jerusalem, we are proceeding from a status quo that is well over 1,000 years old. The city of Jerusalem is not of interest to the Jews alone, but to the Arabs--Moslems and Christians as well.

Concludes Talks With Giscard

JN132115Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing this evening concluded their talks at the Elysee Palace in Paris during the working dinner which President and Mrs Giscard gave in honor of His Majesty King Husayn and Her Majesty Queen Nur. The two leaders discussed questions of interest to the two countries.

At noon tomorrow, Thursday, His Majesty King Husayn will hold a press conference at the (?Marini) Palace in Paris where his majesty will meet with the representatives of French and international press, radio and television. His Majesty King Husayn will brief them on the major principles of the Jordanian stand toward developments in the Middle East.

PREMIER MEETS WITH NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER

JN131657Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Excerpt] Mudar Badran, prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, received in his office at noon today Christoph Van der Klaauw, Netherlands foreign minister, and the delegation accompanying him. During the meeting, a review was made of existing relations between the two countries and ways of promoting them. The latest developments in the Middle East situation were also reviewed.

The prime minister affirmed to the visiting minister the Jordanian stand regarding finding a comprehensive and just settlement of the Middle East crisis, based on total Israeli withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967, including Arab Jerusalem, and giving the Palestinian people their right to self-determination in accordance with the well-known international concepts that respect human rights, do not allow the seizure of others' territories by force, and give peoples their legitimate rights, among which are political and civil rights.

The prime minister added that Jordan played and continues to play a principal role in the process of peace and that His Majesty King Husayn, by means of his current visit to Europe, is explaining the Jordanian and Arab viewpoint after the issuance of the Baghdad conference resolutions, which stress the importance of the comprehensive and lasting solution and warn against unilateral solutions that take the peace process backward.

The prime minister praised the EEC statement issued in June 1977, which emphasized the importance of Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories as well as the importance of giving the Palestinian people their legitimate rights.

The meeting was attended by 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of information and acting minister of state for foreign affairs.

Earlier the Jordanian side under 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah and the Dutch side under Christoph Van der Klaauw held a joint meeting at the Foreign Ministry. During the meeting, a review was made of the fields of cooperation between Jordan and Holland as well as the new aspects of cooperation to be made available by the technical and economic cooperation agreement to be signed by the two sides tomorrow. A review was also made of the stages so far achieved in the projects backed by the Dutch government and included in the Jordan Valley development plan.

The meeting was marked by a friendly spirit and desire to achieve more cooperation in the technical, scientific and commercial fields as well as in the field of establishing joint economic ventures in the private sector of the two countries.

At the beginning of the meeting, 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah welcomed the Dutch minister and the delegation accompanying him and expressed the hope that this visit will contribute to increasing cooperation between Jordan and The Netherlands.

Van der Klaauw replied thanking the Jordanian Government for the welcome accorded to him and the delegation accompanying him. He stressed the importance of cooperation between the two countries and referred to the historical trade relations existing between Holland and the Middle East.

NCC SPEAKER RECEIVES VISITING SOVIET OFFICIAL

JN132042Y Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Ahmad al-Lawzi, speaker of the National Consultative Council [NCC], met today with (Cherkez Shivli), member of the board of the USSR Union of Journalists and deputy chairman of the Georgia USSR Supreme Soviet. Al-Lawzi briefed the guest on the aims of the NCC and its role in expressing the needs of the society, discussing the cabinet's policy and giving it advice.

Al-Lawzi explained the situation in the Middle East and Jordan's faith in a just and comprehensive solution to the problem. He also reviewed with the guest ways of parliamentary cooperation between the two countries.

The meeting was attended by 'Abd al'Wahhab al'Majali, chairman of the council's Foreign Affairs Committee.

CABINET SESSION HELD; AL-HUSS MAKES STATEMENT

NC131530Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 13 Dec 78 NC

[Excerpts] Today, the cabinet held a meeting chaired by President Ilyas Sarkis. Prime Minister Salim al-Huss and the ministers attended this meeting. However, Minister Butrus was absent due to illness, while Minister Rizk was absent because he is currently abroad.

President Sarkis opened the meeting by strongly condemning the incident to which Ambassadors ash-Sha'ir and al-Bu'ayjan were subjected late last week. In this incident, fire was opened on the military helicopter which was carrying them. The helicopter happened to be flying over an area in which an armed clash was in progress between the Lebanese Army and some armed men.

His excellency the president emphasized the need to take urgent steps to expose the circumstances under which this incident occurred. The president also referred to the armed attack against army personnel which took place in the area of Sarbah, and the incident in the same area in which a helicopter making an emergency landing was blown up.

The president also emphasized the need to pursue all those who perpetrated, participated in and intervened in these incidents.

His Excellency President Sarkis expressed his hope that God will help Ambassador ash-Sha'ir recover soon so that he can resume his beneficial efforts and activities for the sake of restoring security and stability in Lebanon.

The cabinet also discussed the political and security situation in Lebanon.

After the meeting, Prime Minister Salim al-Huss was asked: Have any security measures been adopted in the wake of the deterioration in the security situation during the past few days?

The prime minister replied: As you know, I held a series of meetings yesterday with officials responsible for the country's security. The meetings included the interior minister, the commander of the Arab Deterrent Forces [ADF] and the director general of the internal security forces. The meetings dealt with the general security situation in the country--particularly the recent deterioration in security, which included attacks on individuals, the looting of cars and other such deeds. In these meetings, we drew up principled concepts concerning what action we should take to restore security and calm. We hope that there will be tangible results in the near future, God willing.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: This morning we discussed this subject in the working meeting chaired by President Sarkis, in which the ADF commander and I participated.

Asked whether the cabinet adopted a specific stand concerning the clash which occurred last week between the army and the armed men, and the attack to which Ambassadors ash-Sha'ir and al-Bu'ayjan were subjected, the prime minister replied: The cabinet discussed a number of current topics, foremost of which was the painful incident to which the Arab ambassadors were subjected and in which Saudi Ambassador Col 'Ali ash-Sha'ir was injured. The cabinet emphasized the need to do all that is necessary to reveal the perpetrators and pursue them. The discussions also dealt with the acts of aggression to which the Lebanese Army was subjected and the measures that should be taken to deal with this situation.

Prime Minister al-Huss added: The cabinet also discussed the political situation in the country and looked into the various alternative moves which might be made on the political level during the next stage. The cabinet also reviewed current developments in the UN arena and the international and diplomatic contacts related to southern Lebanon. The cabinet review comes in the wake of the report submitted by the UN secretary general to the UN Security Council on the situation in southern Lebanon and in the wake of the attitude adopted by the UN Security Council in this respect. The cabinet review also included the attitude that should be taken in view of the fact that the UNIFIL mandate in the south is due to expire next month. The cabinet discussions also dealt with some of the rumors of the possibilities of resettlement implied in some international initiatives.

The cabinet expressed once again Lebanon's well-known stand rejecting any kind of resettlement plan.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS FIRING IN BEIRUT

NC131610Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 13 Dec 78 NC

[Text] Reports from the usual combat areas indicate that 'Ayn ar-Rummanah and Al Matahin are being subjected to sniping from the Chevrolet and Gallerie Sim'an areas. As a result of this, traffic on Al-Hazimiyah Highway and Boulevard Camille Sham'un and on the Chevrolet-Mar Mikhayil-Gallerie Sim'an traffic circle is now endangered.

In the western area [of Beirut], a car was subjected to (?looting) by armed men who were traveling in a Fiat on the road between the U.S. and British embassies.

The driver of the attacked car succeeded in fleeing with his Renault.

PAPER WARNS AGAINST LEBANESE ARMY WITHDRAWALS

JN121139Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 12 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 12 Dec--It was reported here today that Lebanese Army units stationed in the barracks of Juniyah, Sarba and Rumiyah on the northern Lebanese coast have begun to withdraw from the area controlled by the rightwing militias and are heading toward the barracks of the capital. The newspaper AL-WATAN, organ of the Lebanese nationalist movement, which carried this report, warned against the withdrawal of the authorities before these militias. The paper stressed that this will have negative repercussions on the overall situation in the country. The rightwing militias raided the Sarba barrack last week and arrested a large number of its officers and soldiers which led to armed clashes between the two sides.

PRESIDENT AL-ASAD RECEIVES ROMANIAN OFFICIAL, CEAUSESCU MESSAGE

JN131419Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1345 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 13 Dec--At 1430 today President Hafiz al-Asad received Angelo Miculescu, Romanian deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and food industry, who conveyed to the president a message from President Nicolae Ceausescu.

The meeting concerned the results of the talks Miculescu and the delegation accompanying him held with the Syrian officials. Also discussed were the relations between Syria and Romania as well as the developments pertaining to the Middle East situation.

PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY SPEAKER RECEIVES BRITISH AMBASSADOR

JN131416Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1215 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 13 Dec--Mahmud Hadid, speaker of the People's Assembly, this morning received the British ambassador in Damascus, Albert James Craig.

The British ambassador extended an invitation from the speakers of the House of Lords and the House of Commons to Mahmud Haid to visit the United Kingdom. The visit will take place during [words indistinct].

DAMASCUS CRITICIZES U.S. MIDDLE EAST POLICY

JN131440Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] When President Jimmy Carter succeeded in convincing President as-Sadat and Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin to sign the Camp David agreements, U.S. political and information circles highlighted this step and considered it as the grandest political success achieved by President Carter since he first assumed constitutional responsibility.

Some circles, however, looked at this step as the only success for President Carter. There is no doubt that this "single" success has contributed to increasing the President's popularity in the United States, particularly since he has severely failed in the fields of economy and energy. Actually, the Camp David agreements form a great success to implement U.S. designs in the Middle East. By these two agreements, the United States has brought about containment of the biggest Arab country. Consequently the United States has isolated Egypt from the Arab front facing world imperialism and Zionism. Moreover, Egypt has been transformed into a tool in the hands of U.S. imperialism raised against the nationalist movements in Africa. Furthermore, sides of the ruling parties in the United States have become confident that President Carter's government will be able to implement what Eisenhower's government failed at 20 years ago. Hence, the U.S. Government is trying to fill the vacuum in Egypt and then to fill the vacuum in the rest of the Middle East.

However, U.S. optimism is declining. President Carter has delegated his secretary of state to urge As-Sadat and Begin to expedite the signing of the capitulatory and unilateral agreement before the occurrence of any surprises that might change all calculations.

Events and developments in the Middle East do not proceed according to expectations of the U.S. policy designers; the Damascus-Baghdad rapprochement, the Damascus steadfastness summit resolutions, and the Baghdad Arab summit have all isolated As-Sadat's regime and have cast suspicion and doubt on the viability of the capitulatory Egyptian-Israeli settlement. Thus, As-Sadat's regime has become completely paralyzed and unable to offer any services to the U.S. policies.

On the international level, the stands of the overwhelming majority of the UN member states contradict U.S. policies. This was recently shown in the UN resolutions on the Middle East, which have isolated the United States and reaffirmed the illegitimacy of the U.S. approach to the Middle East problem.

The recent developments in the area, to which Syria has greatly contributed, cause great worry in the United States; at the same time these developments bring hope and confidence to the Arab masses for victory and liberation.

Further Commentary

JN081309Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Dec 78 JN

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpt] As-Sadat seems to be really determined to conclude a separate reconciliation [sulh] treaty with the Zionist enemy on the fixed date of 17 December. U.S. President Jimmy Carter has confirmed this. Carter frankly stated that the Camp David agreements fixed this date to sign a separate reconciliation treaty between the two sides. U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance is prepared to undertake a new tour to Cairo and Tel Aviv on this basis with the aim of making all necessary arrangements to have this treaty signed. Also on this basis, U.S. President Carter sent his personal envoy to the Middle East in an unsuccessful and exposed attempt to insure an Arab support for separate reconciliation between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist enemy. However, this attempt has completely failed in Damascus, for President al-Asad managed to unmask this attempt when he emphasized to U.S. Senator Byrd that the Camp David agreements are basically contrary to UN resolutions. These agreements gave Israel all that it wanted and denied Arabs all their rights.

This affirms that As-Sadat has completely and finally abandoned the Arab ranks and turned into a pliable tool in the hands of the Zionist and imperialist forces. These forces are now using As-Sadat to implement plots concocted against the Arab nation. The suspicious moves made by the Camp David parties clearly indicate that the false differences that recently cropped up between As-Sadat and Israel were in fact a clear maneuver to throw sand in the eyes of Arab public opinion and delude it into believing that the president of the Egyptian regime is a strong negotiator. This attempt is being made at a time when even agents of this regime are convinced that As-Sadat cannot think of discussing the conditions dictated to him by Washington and Tel Aviv.

LIBYA

AL-MABRUK COMMENTS ON OIL PRICES, DECLINE OF DOLLAR

LD140019Y Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 15 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Brother 'Izz ad-Din al-Mabruk, the petroleum secretary, confirmed that maintaining the dollar as the pricing unit for oil will not benefit producers even if the next conference decides to increase oil prices because the continued decline of the dollar will swallow the increase. The petroleum secretary explained at a press conference in Abu Dhabi that the dollar, even if it rises a little, will decline again because the U.S. balance of payments has a growing deficit and inflation is on the increase. Brother 'Izz ad-Din al-Mabruk said industrialized countries refuse to link the rise in the price of oil to increases in the price of consumer goods and raw materials. He pointed out that in addition to not being able to overcome inflation, the industrialized countries had purposely allowed the dollar to decline in order to reduce the oil producers' incomes at the same time they were asking those producers not to raise the price of oil.

AL-QADHDHAFI RECEIVES PDRY MINISTER OF DEFENSE

LD122352Y Tripoli JANA in English 1733 GMT 12 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, December 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1st of September Revolution and secretary-general of the General People's Congress, received this morning the Yemeni delegation which is currently visiting the Jamahiriyah. The delegation is headed by Mr. 'Ali Ahmad Antar [name as received], member of the Presidential Council and minister of defense in the Yemen People's Democratic Republic.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN II POSTPONES VISIT TO FRANCE

TA131431Y Paris AFP in English 1418 GMT 13 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Fes, Morocco, 13 Dec (AFP)--Morocco's King Hassan II today unexpectedly postponed a planned private visit to France, official sources said. He was due to leave his residence here at 1200 GMT for Paris, but guests invited to a farewell ceremony were told the trip had been put off. The king was due to meet French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing. No reason has yet been given for the postponement. [Paris Domestic Service at 1900 GMT on 13 December indicates minor illness as the reason for postponing the visit.]

USFP CASABLANCA CONGRESS DEMANDS ACCELERATED DEMOCRATIZATION

LD131259Y Paris LE MONDE in French 12 Dec 78 p 5 LD

[Dominique Pouchin report: "The Socialist Union of People's Forces Has Called for 'Real Democratization'"]

[Excerpts] Casablanca--Using a firm but occasionally sharp tone in a kind of "calm challenge," the third congress of the Socialist Union of People's Forces [USFP], which ended its deliberations in Casablanca on 10 December, called for a global revision of the constitution, the formation of a new government, the organization of "sincere" elections and the release of all political prisoners.

In fact, a resolution unanimously adopted at the end of the meeting calls for a transformation of the present "presidential monarchy, which protects the exploiting classes, into a constitutional, parliamentary and democratic monarchy...in which the king would act as arbiter."

The USFP, the main opposition party, also demands that a new "strong and responsible government which would represent national forces and would be inspired by a desire for public good" be entrusted with the fundamental task of organizing elections which "would guarantee free expression for all citizens and take any necessary measures to weed out the civil service and insure its neutrality." Furthermore, such a government "would have to end the war of attrition forced on the country's southern region by ordering the royal armed forces to stop any unjustified attack against Morocco."

This means that the USFP is calling for a clear and decisive acceleration of the democratization process which was started 3 years ago as a result of the Green March. However, no date was fixed in the adopted document for the implementation of these "demands" and Mr Abderrahim Bouabid, who was reappointed first secretary and who deemed it unnecessary to mention the terms of the resolution in his short concluding speech, sees it, in fact, merely as a "reasonable alternative which could make it possible to mobilize the energies necessary to save the country." "We want real democracy," Mr Bouabid concluded, after urging his followers to be "patient and responsible."

Opposition is as yet tolerated only against a background of "national unity" in support of the great cause of the "southern provinces." As far as the principle of their recovery is concerned, no split has appeared in the joint front of the major Moroccan parties. It is this policy which Mr Bouabid wanted to justify in his preliminary report when he addressed direct the numerous foreign delegations which had been invited to attend the congress.

Completely disregarding the long written document whose initial chapters--which were devoted to an analysis of an internal liberalization and of a very gloomy economic situation--he had summarized, Mr Bouabid tried to assume the role of a teacher in order to explain the validity of Morocco's position. In fact, he was not unaware that a number of his guests maintained a skeptical, to say the least, attitude toward this problem. Some of them--and not the least important--had already repeatedly visited "the other side" to convey their organization' "fraternal greetings" to the "Saharan people's resistance" during POLISARIO Front congresses.

The USFP first secretary therefore referred back once again to the origins of the affair, at a time--the end of the fifties--when "there was as yet no mention of the Saharan people." The aim of this was to demonstrate more clearly the allegedly false and artificial nature of the national entity which Morocco's enemies are at present trying to create out of nothing. "Let us repeat," he concluded, "it is impossible for us to yield the smallest portion of our land."

Recalling his party's unwavering doctrine since the days of Mehdi Ben Barka, Mr Bouabid nevertheless reaffirmed that the USFP is firmly attached to the idea of a "united Arab Maghreb" and that, in order to found this unity, it is quite prepared to accept, and even advocates joint exploitation by all the Maghreb peoples of the whole of Saharan resources. [paragraph continues]

In his written report the party's first secretary attacks, with a severity which was never apparent in his oral report, the government's hesitations and timorous attitude to the national question. "If Morocco," it claims, "has not yet completed its territorial unity and is constantly faced with the problem of the Sahara...it is because our country's governments have rejected and still reject the overall liberation strategy proposed by our party...responding to offensives with offensives in all spheres--political, diplomatic and military." Mr Bouabid concluded by launching an appeal to "those responsible" to "abandon their hesitant, wait-and-see policy" which is "the direct consequence of the antipopular and antidemocratic options chosen over the past 20 years."

BOUCETTA COMMENTS ON CEUTA, MELLILIA ISSUE

LD131915Y Rabat MAP in English 1208 GMT 13 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Brussels, Dec 13, (MAP)--M'hamed Boucetta, the Moroccan foreign minister, in an interview, said that "Ceuta and Mellilia affair was exposed in the context of Moroccan geo-political situation rather than as a claim," reported here the Belgian magazine REMARQUES ARABO-AFRICAINES in its last issue.

"We can have relations with other countries only if based on mutual respect of national sovereignty and equality," Boucetta remarked. "In this framework Morocco's attitude on Ceuta and Mellilia is strictly identical with Spain's on Gibraltar," the foreign minister added.

When asked about the conflict in north west Africa, Boucetta stated that "former Spanish Sahara is a recuperated Moroccan territory," and we are ready to defend it and end the Sahara conflict within the Organisation for African Unity's (OAU) framework.

TUNISIA

NOUIRA U.S. VISIT SIGNIFICANT FOR PALESTINIANS

LD111509Y Tunis L'ACTION in French 5 Dec 78 p 5 LD

[Commentary by TAP special correspondent B. Toual: "Complete Success"]

[Text] The Tunisian-U.S. joint communique published Friday confirmed that Mr Hedi Nouira's talks with President Carter and his principal aides proved fruitful in all spheres, and first of all in the sphere of bilateral relations, since the United States has emphasized that Tunisia's stability, independence and security is in its interest.

President Carter restated his government's determination to support the rapid rate of Tunisian economic growth.

As far as the analysis of the international situation is concerned, the attitude adopted by the two partners toward the Middle East problems is bound to arouse great interest among all observers. In fact, it is probably the first time that the United States has gone so far with respect to the most painful aspect of the problem and emphasized so clearly the fundamental importance of participation by all the Palestinian people in the search for peace.

A sentence included in the communique can be seen as an important step toward U.S. recognition of the legitimacy of the Palestinian people's struggle. It reads: "A global, fair and lasting peace must insure the concretization of the legitimate rights for which the Palestinian people have been waging a struggle."

Every word deserves to be considered. In fact, it is probably the first time the U.S. Government has referred to the legitimacy of the Palestinian people's struggle, and consequently the legitimacy of their right as a nation to desire to occupy the place among other nations to which they are entitled.

Furthermore, observers will see in all this a gesture by the Americans toward the Palestinians. Thanks to these decidedly positive results, Mr Hedi Nouira's visit to the United States will have contributed considerably to progress toward peace in the region.

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO OFFICIAL SAYS TALKS WITH MAURITANIA RESUME

LD130034Y Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 12 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] The POLISARIO Front has announced, through Mme (Fati Mato), member of the Political Bureau of the front, the resumption of negotiations between the Saharan liberation movement and the Mauritanian Government. According to AFP, which carried extracts from a press conference held by Mme (Allali) [name as heard], who is leading a POLISARIO Front delegation in Federal Germany, she said that the resumption of the negotiations took place in an African capital. She placed responsibility for the suspension of the previous talks on the Mauritanian Government. She also referred in her press conference to the political, military and diplomatic successes achieved by the front during the past 3 years, stressing the victory attained by the Saharan people at the United Nations where the right of the people to determine their future was confirmed.

VANCE EXPRESSES HOPE FOR POSTIVE TALKS IN JERUSALEM

TA131219Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 13 Dec 78 TA

[From the Midday Newsreel]

[Text] When Secretary of State Vance arrived at Lod Airport journalists, who wanted to hear about his talks in Cairo, were waiting. Among them was our correspondent Dan Eshel

[Begin recording] [Eshel] This time Vance has been in Cairo less than 24 hours after returning following Golda Meir's funeral. At the airport he was received by the foreign minister, Mr Moshe Dayan, and the U.S. ambassador in Israel, Samuel Lewis. Talking with journalists he expressed the hope that this time the talks in Jerusalem will be positive.

[Vance] I have just completed 3 days of discussions with President as-Sadat and his senior officials. I look forward now to meeting with Prime Minister Begin, Foreign Minister Dayan and other senior officials of the Israeli Government. The delegations of the parties have worked very hard over the last weeks. We are now in the final stages of the negotiations and I hope very much that our talks here in Jerusalem will be positive.

Vance, Dayan Comment on Talks

TA131825Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 13 Dec 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] Differences of opinion--this is how U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance describes the positions of Israel and the United States at this moment. Secretary of State Vance met this afternoon with cabinet members within the framework of the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew reports in its newscast at 1800 GMT on 13 December that Minister of Defense 'Ezer Weizman was not present at this meeting.] The meeting ended a few minutes ago and our political correspondent, Shalom Qital, reports:

[Qital] The proposals that the secretary of state brought with him from Cairo do not satisfy Israel. Indeed, Egypt is prepared to accept the peace treaty, but it wants to include reservations in the form of letters accompanying the treaty, to set a target date for holding the elections for the autonomy institutions and to express reservations about Article 6. This is the article that gives priority to the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty over the pacts Egypt has with the Arab world. The United States wants Israel to accept these letters, and so there are what Cyrus Vance calls differences of opinion between Israel and the United States.

[begin recording] [Vance] We have just finished a meeting, as you know, with the prime minister and a number of the cabinet members. It was a friendly discussion, it was a thorough discussion. There are differences of views between us, but we will be continuing our discussions tomorrow morning. [end recording]

[Qital] Will the talks end by Sunday, 17 December? I do not know, Vance replied. Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan did not elaborate on the differences of opinion or, if you prefer, differences of views. What follows is a short talk I had with Dayan right after my conversation with Vance.

[begin recording] [Qital] Mr Dayan, how would you sum up the talks you have just had with Cyrus Vance?

[Dayan] I certainly will not sum up those talks since the time has not yet come for a summation. This was the first meeting of a broad group, of the Ministerial Committee on Security Affairs, with the secretary of state and his colleagues. He told us about the positions of Egypt and the United States and about the various disputed issues. We exchanged views. Now there will be an internal discussion, a discussion among the members of the Israeli delegation, and tomorrow morning we will continue the discussions with the secretary of state and his colleagues. It is still too early to summarize anything whatsoever.

[Qital] The secretary of state mentioned that there were differences of approach between the United States and Israel. Can you confirm this?

[Dayan] When I say that it is now too early to summarize anything, that it is impossible to summarize anything, I cannot. I am not prepared to say any more than I already have. [end recording]

[Qital] After the meeting with Vance, the internal consultations are still continuing in the prime minister's office.

Begin Discusses Differences

TA132026Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 13 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Following talks held today with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, the Ministerial Committee for Security Affairs met this evening for a special discussion. The meeting ended less than an hour ago and our correspondent Dan Raviv has returned from the prime minister's office and given us further details.

[Raviv] The differences of opinion between Egypt and Israel remain. The prime minister again announced that Israel is prepared to sign the peace treaty as it stands. But judging by the document Cyrus Vance brought with him from Cairo, it appears that Egypt is making new demands which Israel will not be able to accept. Although Egypt may agree not to reopen the peace treaty, it appears that it is making proposals to Israel via accompanying letters which divest the Camp David agreements and the draft peace treaty of their meaning and significance. It appears that Israel cannot accept these new Egyptian demands. This evening Jerusalem sources noted that Israel has already made all its sacrifices in regard to the signing of the peace treaty, while Egypt is creating new difficulties.

As far as could be learned, Egypt is demanding a timetable for the autonomy. This is in opposition to Israel's position. According to assessments in Jerusalem, Egypt is divesting Article 6 of its meaning and is not giving the peace treaty with Israel priority over other Egyptian treaties. It turns out that Egypt wants the treaty to be reexamined several years after it is signed. It has also reneged on its agreement that there should be exchanges of ambassadors between Israel and Egypt at the end of the first stage of the withdrawal. It is now proposing that the exchange of ambassadors take place only after the establishment of the administrative council in Judaea and Samaria.

In this atmosphere of rejection of the new Egyptian demands, the Ministerial Committee will meet with the U.S. secretary of state again tomorrow. This evening, it does not seem as though the peace treaty will be signed by 17 December. This can also be seen from remarks made by the prime minister as he emerged from the meeting this evening with the U.S. secretary of state.

[begin videotape] [Begin] We had a serious argument over the problems on the agenda and tomorrow we will continue the discussion, a discussion between the U.S. and the Israeli delegations.

Were there, as you asked, differences between the proposals brought from Egypt by the secretary of state and his colleagues and the position of the Israeli delegation? The answer to this question is yes. I want to reiterate that the Government of Israel is prepared to sign the peace treaty with Egypt, with contents as they were determined on 11 November, along with the appendices. That is our position.

[Raviv] Is the argument over the Egyptians' desire to reopen the peace agreement or over the other proposals, such as an accompanying letter, which the Americans are now making?

[Begin] I will not go into any more details now. What I told you is, I think, something basic, and I ask that you be satisfied with it, particularly because the discussion is continuing. Had the discussion ended this evening, I may have felt it to be my duty to give you further details. Since the discussion is continuing, I am satisfied with what I have said. [end videotape]

Cabinet Session Scheduled

TA1409397 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 14 Dec 78 TA

[Text] The talk between the U.S. secretary of state and the team of cabinet members ended at the prime minister's office. At first, Begin and Vance talked privately for about half an hour and then the disucussion continued with all ministers participating.

The prime minister sqid that the talk had been serious and that there are still differences of opinion between Jerusalem and Cairo. A special cabinet session has been scheduled for tomorrow, 15 December, to adopt suitable decisions.

Cyrus Vance said the United States was looking forward to the results of that cabinet session. He noted that Washington would continue in its efforts to achieve peace and that it is firm in its desire to succeed.

JERUSALEM DISMAYED AT EGYPTIAN 'BACKSLIDING' ON LINKAGE

TA1410267 Jerusalem POST in English 14 Dec 78 p 1 TA

[By David Landau]

[Text] Egypt is insisting now that full diplomatic relations with Israel can only be constituted once the autonomy is constituted. Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat is understood to have demanded, in his talks with U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, that "Annex Three" to the peace treaty, be amended to this effect.

Under Annex Three, the "Protocol Concerning Relations Between the Parties," the parties were to agree "to establish diplomatic and consular relations and to exchange ambassadors upon the completion of the interim withdrawal" (in Sinai--nine months after the signing of the treaty).

Israeli sources expressed dismay yesterday at learning this new Egyptian "backsliding" as they termed it. They said it entirely cancelled Egypt's apparent softening on the "linkage-timetable" issue--on which Egypt is now prepared to accept the U.S. proposal for a "target date" of December 1979 for the holding of the autonomy elections. (Israel, so far, is not prepared to accept that American proposal.)

The Israeli sources said that connecting the exchange of ambassadors with the autonomy was an "even more serious form of linkage" than the election timetable, and declared vehemently that Israel would not accept it. [paragraph continues]

"Let's hope that As-Sadat has put it up only as a bargaining counter," one official said. A high policy-maker accused Egypt of "negotiating in bad faith."

Vance seemed to present this new Egyptian demand linking diplomatic ties to the autonomy with less than energetic conviction on his own part. But Vance was plainly pushing Israel to accept his "target date" compromise on the autonomy elections, and was disappointed and angered at having made no headway with Premier Menahem Begin.

Similarly, Israel's premier reacted cooly to Egypt's demand--also endorsed by the U.S.--for an "interpretive note" to be appended to the vexed "Article Six" of the draft treaty. Such a note, which would have the same force as the treaty article itself, would affirm Egypt's commitment to the Arab League defence pact. Israel insists that the peace treaty should take priority over all previous Egyptian military obligations.

"The note would effectively empty Article Six of all meaning," an Israeli source claimed last night.

There was also disappointment here over the news that Egypt is once again pressing for a specific five-year review provision to be attached to Article Four of the peace treaty. This was a demand which the Israeli negotiators at the Blair House talks believed Egypt had dropped in the face of determined Israeli resistance.

Egypt wants the review to embrace all the military and security provisions of the treaty. Israeli sources say the five-year deadline is intended by Egypt as a way of deliberately linking the treaty in this way, too, to progress on the West Bank and Gaza issue. (The "permanent status" of these areas is due to be determined, through negotiations, by the end of the five years.)

While the situation looked bleak to many Israeli officials, there were optimists among them who felt the new linkage demands would be waived by Cairo if Israel acceded to the American compromise formula on the election target-date and on Article Six.

Secretary Vance is to meet again this morning with the Ministerial Defence Committee before flying to Cairo for a final talk with As-Sadat. Yesterday he met first with Premier Begin, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman and their aides, and later with the eight-man Defence Committee. In the evening he attended a "working dinner" with Dayan and his aides at the Plaza Hotel in Jerusalem.

JERUSALEM SURPRISED BY SENATOR BYRD'S REMARKS

TA131127Y Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 13 Dec 78 p 1 TA

[Text] This morning Jerusalem expressed great surprise about remarks attributed to the leader of the Democratic majority in the Senate, Senator Robert Byrd, about the illegality of the Israeli settlements, in which it was stressed that the United States, which opposes them, would not provide Israel with aid if the government decides to establish new settlements in Judaea and Samaria.

During his visit to Israel about 2 weeks ago, after his visit to Cairo, Senator Byrd called himself "President Carter's envoy" and this angered Jerusalem. Senator Byrd's remarks are viewed as part of the campaign begun by President Carter himself a few days earlier against the fleshing-out of the settlements and the establishment of new settlements.

At its meeting this Sunday, the cabinet intends to discuss the issue of settlement in the territories.

Knesset Members' Reactions

TA131800Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 13 Dec 78 TA

[Text] The remarks by Senator Byrd and their implications have aroused very strong reactions. Reporter David Essing has just returned from the Knesset with this report:

[Begin recording] [Essing] Senator Byrd's remarks have sent shock waves across Israel's political scene. Supporters and even opponents of Prime Minister Begin's settlement policy are up in arms. Moshe Arens, chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, says the message from Washington is clear.

[Arens] It is a warning and it comes at the very last minute, in the eleventh hour, and I think that we had better heed the warning.

[Essing] Arens feels that the warning aims at the $4-billion bill for Israel's military redeployment in the Negev.

[Arens] The cost of that redeployment must be borne by the United States. There is no other paty. In my opinion, if we do not get a concrete guarantee before we sign the peace agreement, we are going to be in very serious trouble.

[Essing] What can Israel do at this point?

[Arens] I think it is not yet too late. This is why I say it is the eleventh hour for Israel. We must now tell the Egyptians and the United States, which is participating in the discussions, that we must have a firm agreement on the necessary funding for the redeployment in the Negev before and not after we sign the peace treaty. This must be a condition. Otherwise, I think any fool can see what is going to happen, as Senator Byrd has pointed out very clearly. We will sign the agreement, begin our withdrawal and have to go to Washington to try to get the necessary funds so that the Israeli army can properly redeployed in the Negev. Otherwise, we will not only be back on the 1967 borders but be back on the 1967 borders without our army being in prepared positions and without our air force having bases for its planes. We will then be asking for its assistance. Well, you can already see the kind of conditions we are going to face.

[Essing] Is the United States now turning the vise, Professor Arens?

[Arens] I think that it is, and I think it really would be foolish if we disregard the warning that we received directly from Senator Byrd--directly from the United States.

[Essing] Here is Zalman Shoval of the Likud's La'am faction:

[Shoval] I think we should be rather thankful to Sentaor Byrd for having jumped the gun and for having issued this warning before we signed the peace agreement between Israel and Egypt. We may have been mistaken in not having discussed this topic more thoroughly during the Camp David conference, but it is not too late even now. I think we should say to our American firends: Israel is taking a maximum risk. Israel is withdrawing from the Sinai. Israel is perhaps endangering its future security, and we have to relocate our defense in other parts of Israel, in the south, in the Negev. On the one hand, this will be a financial burden for Israel amounting to several billions of dollars, which we cannot bear under any circumstances whatsoever.

But, I think it should also be stressed that, by making this arrangement between Israel and Egypt--an arrangement which would not have been possible without Israel's willingness to withdraw--the United States is actually gaining, I would say, the greatest advantage strategically and politically that it has perhaps ever gained since the World War II.

[Essing] The Byrd warning has come on the very day that Secretary Vance is to arrive in Jerusalem for crucial discussions on the peace negotiations. Do you see this as direct, overt U.S. pressure on Jerusalem at this time?

[Shoval] Yes, I see it as direct or overt pressure. I have no doubt that Senator Byrd would not have made that statement on his own.

[Essing] Former Foreign Minister Abba Eban, an opponent of the government's settlement policy, said he cannot remember anything quite like Senator Byrd's warning.

[Eban] You know I have been very closely connected with U.S.-Israeli relations for 3 decades, and I find the senator's remarks to be a gross violation of the whole tradition of cooperation between our two nations. This very blatant connection between aid to Israel and the acceptance by Israel of American policies is an innovation which I think has international implications, not only for Israel. I do not remember when an American senator has spoken like that about aid to any country. Therefore, I hope that there will be other voices in the Senate that will have the sense to separate two issues: the issue of U.S. aid to Israel and the issue of the dialog between us about what our policy should be.

[Essing] Do you think that this warning from Washington is going to affect Jerusalem's position in these crucial negotiations now going on with Secretary Vance. In other words, will it toughen Israel's stand?

[Eban] I am afraid that my only reaction to a statement like that is to go and put up a settlement in a place where I would otherwise not think it should be put up. In other words, the normal reaction is a perverse one to show that you are not yielding to this kind of threat. I hope, however, that our government and people will separate two issues: the struggle against the ideology inherent in Senator Byrd's remarks and the question of whether it is sensible to establish settlements in the given time. [end recording]

KNESSET REJECTS WOMEN'S NATIONAL SERVICE PROPOSAL

TA131601Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 13 Dec 78 TA

[Text] We just received word that the Knesset has voted down the proposal to implement the law that requires girls who do not serve in the army to do national service. The vote: 61 against, 47 in favor and 4 abstentions.

IDF TO CONTINUE POLICY OF ANNEXING ARAB LAND

TA132107Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 13 Dec 78 TA

[Excerpt] It was reported this evening that the IDF will continue to take over land in the territories within a radius of 500 meters from IDF camps. This is in accordance with a policy which has been followed for some time.

Last night and today, 1,200 dunams were taken over in the Bayt Sahur area, near Bethlehem. In reply to a question by our correspondent, the Ministry of defense spokesman said this evening that the IDF would permit the completion of buildings now being built in the area taken over. Inhabitants who wish to build new buildings will have to submit special requests to the military government.

The mayor of Bethlehem, Elyas Frayj, told our correspondent that it had been agreed at Camp David to remove the IDF camps from the Judaean and Samarian towns. But, according to him, they are taking over land and enlarging the camps. A fence was put up in Hebron today in territory taken over by the IDF.

SUPREME COURT BACKS JERUSALEM AREA LANDOWNERS

TA131839Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 13 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Some 41 landowners from 'Anata village, near Jerusalem, have obtained an interim order from the Supreme Court of Justice forbidding the military government to fence off areas belonging to them. According to them, they have been cultivating these lands for many generations and the annexation of the land and its closure violate the rules of international law and would harm the appealers and their families. They were told by the Ramallah subdistrict command headquarters that the area was intended for an industrial zone, but they claim it is intended for settlement puposes.

OUTPUT DECLINES AT 'ALMA OIL FIELD; TWO WELLS SHUT DOWN

TA140632Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Dec 78 TA

[Text] At the Gulf of Suez 'Alma oil field, two oil wells stopped production because of geological problems. Our correspondent Yosi Melman reports that reduction of pressure in those wells made pumping oil economically unprofitable. Only four wells are now producing at the oil field and a fifth well is in the final stages of drilling. The output of the field went down to about 20,000 barrels per day.

HA'AREZ LAMENTS DECLINE OF ISRAELI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON

TA140903Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 14 Dec 78 p 9 TA

[A. Schweizer commentary: "An Embassy Is Not Scenery"]

[Text] The future of relations with the United States is one of the important subjects constantly on the national agenda. These are unique relations touching on each of the major spheres of the national activities, since the United States is the prop in the international policy, the supplier of war tools and economic aid which determines whether life will be relatively comfortable or strained. It is only natural that this issue occupies the very highest government levels.

In fact, ever since the late Levi Eshkol was prime minister, he and his successors were also foreign ministers for U.S. affairs, in other words ministers who are directly involved in U.S. affairs. This was the practice of Golda Meir. This was also the practice of Yizhaq Rabin and of Mr Begin today. In the latter's case the practice may be a little more involvement, in the most emphatic manner. However, before the Siamese twins Begin-Dayan undertook the running of Israel's foreign affairs and put themselves in charge of Israeli-U.S. relations, the foreign policy makers and executors were aided by the Israeli ambassador in Washington. The Israeli ambassador was not only an eye and an ear, but an active partner in consolidating and even more so in actually implementing the policy toward the United States, and perhaps more important: the policy in the United States.

Policy is not only a correct conception based on a realistic view of data; it is also what is done on the spot, in the field--in the White House, in the administration usually, in the Congress and Senate, among the Jews and in the communications media. [paragraph continues]

Just as the United States is big and wide, the field of action of the embassy should be equally broad--taking notes, following and transmitting and handling matters. However, ever since Messrs Begin and Dayan undertook to handle the relations between Israel and the United States, the Israeli Embassy in Washington has practically been paralyzed, or more precisely, it was downgraded to the level of a listening station. Although the erosion in the friendship between the two countries stems from weighty and serious reasons, the neutralization of the Washington embassy was also one of the causes. If it is not at the center of activities in which Dayan and Begin are directly involved at the level of president-secretary of state, then it is on the periphery.

This periphery, which encompasses the political circles in the United States, maintains contacts with the White House-State Department from which a cool wind is blowing in the direction of Israel. In the absence of an embassy which enjoys a status and involvement, there are not many elements in the U.S. capital that can initiate and organize a feedback of persuasions and explanations.

Just as they have downgraded the Israeli Embassy in Washington, so have Messrs Dayan and Begin upgraded the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv, and especially the ambassador, to the level of full partner in handling the relations between the two countries. Mr Begin embracing Ambassador Lewis on television--this is the symbol of the political revolution that occurred in May 1977.

This is not a lovely sight, not even for those who are not concerned about the personal honor of the present prime minister. It is not natural to make a representative of a foreign super power the exclusive communications channel and confidante while the Israeli ambassador is like scenery, a valueless evidence indicating the existence of full diplomatic relations between the two countries.

It sometimes seems that Messrs Begin and Dayan continue handling the relations with the United States the way the miser holds onto his gold: His instinct does not allow him to let go, although if he had let it out of his hands, he would have got it back with profit. It is possible that there are also personal reasons behind this: Mr Simha Dinitz may not have succeeded in gaining the trust of his new masters (although, if this assumption is true, he should have immediately been replaced by their man). This situation must not continue in the future. Upon the departure of the new ambassador, Efrayyim 'Evron, to the states, the Israeli Embassy in Washington must again gain its proper status in the political-administrative hierarchy of Israel, so that it can serve Israeli interests in the United States with the devotion and efficiency to which we became accustomed in past years.

POST CLAIMS ISRAELI FIRMS TO BUILD SYSTEMS FOR F-16

TA131116Y Jerusalem POST in English 13 Dec 78 p 1 TA

[By Hirsh Goodman]

[Text] General Dynamics, the prime contractor for the F-16 fighter, has agreed to Israeli radar, electronics and other systems being incorporated into the 75 aircraft Israel has on order. This was revealed to the Jerusalem POST by company sources in Dallas, Texas.

Final proposals for the systems will be submitted to the Israel and U.S. governments for approval early next month, it was learned. Bids for building the systems were submitted by some half a dozen Israeli firms earlier this year, after an in-depth study here by a General Dynamics team to discern whether Israel industry is capable of producing the systems in question.

According to a top-level company source, the firm was "extremely pleased" with what they saw here and are more than confident that Israeli industry can produce the systems. General Dynamics has, however, stipulated that all contracts for Israeli co-production items be signed on the following basis: that the items are on a one-to-one substitution basis; that they are subject to F-16 specifications; that they are interchangeable with current items, thus necessitating no major redesign of the airframe; and that the changes be made at certain specified intervals of time.

Most of the subsystems in question are currently being produced by General Dynamics' European partners--in Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark and Norway--and the decision to allow Israel to produce the systems for its own aircraft has given rise to complex financial problems. It has been agreed that 15 per cent of the value on any sales of the aircraft to a third party would be shared by the Europeans. The fact that Israel will now be producing some of its own systems--most of which are parallel to those being made in Europe--has sparked off a major argument between the Americans and Europeans.

According to officials at General Dynamics, Israel's insistence on producing these systems locally will hike the cost of each plane to Israel "considerably". They could not say exactly by how much, or even cite an overall figure of the cost of the plane to Israel, claiming that the exact costing details given by General Dynamics for the total cost per aircraft in 1978 dollars is $11.5 million.

Another factor which will no doubt boost the cost to the IAF are a series of design changes to the basic configuration which Israel has required. Among others, these include a minor structure modification so that the aircraft can carry Israel-made air-to-air missiles and hold more air-to-ground ordnance. Company officials said that several changes have already been defined and authorized.

The major bidders in the tender to build the systems include Elta, Elbit, Ael Electronics, Astro, Tadiran, El-Op and other Israeli companies and U.S. subsidiaries operating in Israel. Israel Aircraft Industries will oversee the Israeli end of the programme.

ISRAEL CONCERNED OVER DEVELOPMENTS IN LEBANON

TA132042Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 13 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Contacts held within the last 24 hours have led to the stabilization of the cease-fire in Beirut after several shooting incidents between the Syrian Army and the Christian militia. In the meantime, elements in Israel have expressed concern at the speed of the reinforcement of the leftist militia in Lebanon during the cease-fire. Here is a report by our correspondent on Arab affairs Shud Ya'ari:

Israel is very interested in and closely viewing these pictures taken recently from Beirut papers and is putting them together and connecting them. These are public evidence of a widescale recruitment and arming process in the Lebanese leftist camp. It appears that, while the cease-fire between the Syrians and the Christians is more or less lasting, the left is not wasting its time. The PLO is supplying instructors, arms are flowing in from East Europe and, as a result and almost indiscernably, an additional military factor is growing. Although this factor is not completely new, its quality and quantity are changing rapidly. And, by the way, some of these exercises are being held just to the north of the Litani, and Junblatt's Druzes, the Shi'ites of the (Hamurabitun) organization, Orthodox Christians from the Syrian Nationalist Party and others are taking part in them. Not only are light arms on the program, but medium mortars and light artillery as well. And all this with the silent encouragement of the Syrians and without the Christians being able to intervene. The Syrians are pressing for the disarmament of the militias, but they mean the Christians. They are leaving the left alone. Israel believes that this process of reinforcement of the left will have an effect later on. Even if it does not, it will be a part of the weakening of the Christians' status when the time comes for the final bargaining.

TEHRAN REPORTS EARTHQUAKE REGISTERED NEAR KHORRAMABAD

LD1411154Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 14 Dec 78 LD

[Text] At 1035 today an earthquake rocked the city of Khorramabad and its environs. The epicenter of this earthquake was registered 370 km southwest of Tehran, in the vicinity of Khorramabad. After contacting Tehran University's Geophysics Institute, PARS NEWS AGENCY announced that the intensity of the earthquake was 5 degrees on the Richter scale.

TEHRAN REPORTS WIDESPREAD DEMONSTRATIONS IN SUPPORT OF SHAH

LD131258Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpts] From the early hours of this morning, large groups of patriotic people in the cities of Arak, Abadan, Esfahan, Parivan, Shirvan, Torbat-e Jam and Sabzevar, while carrying aloft the Iranian national flag, pictures of 'Ali--peace be upon him--and photographs of the shah, have staged national and patriotic demonstrations and marched through the streets of these cities shouting the following slogans: "Long live Iran," "may the leader of the faithful 'Ali save the shah," "greetings to the soldiers of the Iranian Army," and "rise to save the homeland." Similarly, large groups of people in Imamzadeh Hasan, Sarchashmeh and other parts of the capital staged national and patriotic demonstrations, but since these gatherings violated the martial law regulations and since permission had not been obtained in advance to stage them, they were ushered to mosques and religious shrines by officials. The demonstrators, while chanting the slogans "long live Iran," and "long live the independence of the homeland," performed prayer ceremonies at these places.

Hundreds of thousands of people in Esfahan and its suburbs also staged national and patriotic demonstrations while carrying pictures of Hazrat 'Ali ibn 'Ali Taleb--peace be upon him--and of the shah, the shahbanu and his royal highness the crown prince. While chanting national and patriotic slogans, the demonstrators once again renewed their solidarity with the shah.

In today's demonstrations by the people of Esfahan, all vehicles had their headlights turned on and cries of "long live the shah" were heard from everywhere.

Our correspondent reports that over 20 foreign correspondents have prepared films and reports of these large national and patriotic demonstrations.

A large crowd from the various social strata of the people of Bandar-e Pahlavi, while carrying pictures of the leader of the faithful, 'Ali--peace be upon him--and of the shah, and while led by religious leaders, staged national and patriotic demonstrations this morning. Reports received indicate that these demonstrations are still in progress, and that they will continue tomorrow in keeping with the people's request. Last night, thousands of people of Abadan, while staging national demonstrations in various parts of the city, declared their support for the imperial regime in Iran. At these demonstrations, various groups of the people of Abadan, while carrying pictures of the shah and his royal highness the crown prince, formed processions in open-top cars in the city's central streets, and in the Ahmadabad and Farahabad sections, chanting national and patriotic slogans to declare their support for Iran's monarchy and their loyalty to the shah. These demonstrations continued until minutes before curfew hours.

Similarly, various groups of people of Khalkhal yesterday staged national demonstrations, and while carrying the shah's pictures, shouted national and patriotic slogans. Reports received indicate that shops, the Bazaar and primary schools in Khalkhal were reopened today, and that the city's economic activity has been resumed.

Further Report

LD131840Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpts] During the tumultous demonstrations held today by the people of Arak various groups of the town's people, chanting national and patriotic slogans, expressed their full support for the constitutional monarchical regime.

According to a dispatch from our correspondent in Kerman, a group of people in Kerman and district this afternoon held massive national and patriotic demonstrations. Various groups of people, sitting in their cars and trucks, drove along the streets of Kerman with their headlights on shouting national and patriotic slogans. Early in the evening, people divided themselves into small groups and rode along the city streets on motorcycles. According to a dispatch from our correspondent, no incidents took place during these demonstrations.

During the demonstrations by the pro- and anti-government demonstrators, several motorcycles were set on fire. Similarly, this morning the people of the districts of Baft and Rafsanjan held national demonstrations, marching along the streets of these towns chanting national and patriotic slogans. According to a dispatch from our correspondent in Kerman, certain groups of people also resorted to antigovernment demonstrations.

According to report in hand, this afternoon a huge crowd of people from Bijar district took part in tumultous national and patriotic demonstrations, and, marching along the city's streets and chanting slogans, expressed their full support for the imperial order. According to reports received the people of Bijar, during these extremely ardent patriotic demonstrations, pictures were carried aloft of the holy and most generous prophet, may Allah's benedictions and peace be upon him, and of the prince of the pious, the holy 'Ali ibn 'Ali Talib, peace be upon him, and pictures of the shahanshah aryamehr as well, and by chanting national and patriotic slogans they declared their fealty to the constitutional monarchical regime. These national and patriotic demonstrations lasted for 3 hours. Beginning at 1800 today some 5000 people in Quchan marched along the town's streets, and by chanting national and patriotic slogans, expressed their decisive support for the shahanshah aryamehr. According to a dispatch from our correspondent in Mashhad, in the city's Pahlavi Square some 10,000 people, held national and patriotic demonstrations, carrying aloft pictures of the prince of the pious, the holy 'Ali ibn Talib, peace be upon him, and pictures of the shahanshah aryamehr.

KHUZESTAN TOWN PRAISES CONDUCT OF POLICE

JN131450Y Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[From the "News of Khuzestan" program]

[Text] The city council of Dash-e-Mishan chaired by Mr Abdulsahib Armand met this morning. At this session, certain resolutions were adopted regarding strengthening the hills against erosion so as to prevent potential damage by flooding of the Karkhe River.

These resolutions were transmitted to the appropriate authorities. Special appropriations and allotments for the city of Dasht-e Mishan for 1978-79 amounting to 269 million rials were also discussed and the council members confirmed the high priority of reconstruction projects as well as of urban and rural welfare programs.

At this session, the humanitarian behavior and proper conduct of the law enforcement authorities in the city of Dasht-e Mishan during the mourning periods and relevant ceremonies were praised. The members of the city council requested that the commander of gendarmerie and the police chief of Susangar be thanked for their actions.

Khuzestan Schools Reopen

JN131520Y Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[From the "News of Khuzestan" program; "text" of communique issued by Khuzestan Central Department of Education on 13 December]

[Text] As the public has previously been informed by Khuzestan television and radio the kindergartens and elementary schools in this province [Khuzestan] have reopened starting today. Reports from cities and education centers indicate that the classes at these schools are open, but some students are not attending. In view of the fact that this action will result in delaying their school progress, parents--and especially the centers for cooperation between homes and schools--are requested to cooperate with school officials. Meanwhile, in accordance with the order of the Ministry of Education, roll calls will be held in all schools that are open and these absent will be treated according to the regulations.

AHVAZ ISSUES DRAFTEE CALLUP NOTICE

JN131530Y Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 13 Dec 78 JN

[From the "News of Khuzestan" program; "text" of notice issued by Ahvaz gendarmerie on 13 December]

[Text] For the purpose of surveying the status of regular draftees, the draft board for the selection of the best draftees met locally and those draftees in Ahvaz and vicinity born 1942-1949 are ordered to report to the Zargham service training center located on Shushtar road by 16 December 1978. For their further information, the following points are stated:

1. Based on the article IV of the General Draft Law, those draftees not needed by the Imperial Armed Forces will be exempt from service.

2. Those who do not present themselves by the reporting date will be deprived of exemption privileges and will not be permitted to leave the country or to study.

3. Employment of such draftees at factories, firms, workshops, stores and so forth is strictly forbidden.

4. Employers who hire such draftees will be sentenced from 6 months to 2 years' imprisonment.

5. Draftees who do not report and employers who hire them will be legally summoned by special authorities.

OPPOSITION WILL NOT PARTICIPATE IN GOVERNMENT

TA140725Y Paris AFP in English 0653 GMT 14 Dec 78 TA

[Text] Tehran, Dec 14, (AFP)--The shah of Iran last night met for an hour with Karim Sanjabi, leader of the opposition party the "National Front," a party communique said here today.

It said that Mr Sanjabi had again told the shah that the front would not participate in any government formation "in the present circumstances."

PRIME MINISTER CHAIRS CABINET MEETING

ID131256Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Dec 78 ID

[Text] The cabinet met under Gen Gholam Reza Azhari, the prime minister, at the prime minister's office at 0900 today. At this meeting, issues pertaining to government affairs were considered and decisions were adopted.

SHAH RECEIVES HEALTH MINISTER, NEW UNDER SECRETARY

ID131344Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Dec 78 ID

[Text] The shah has received Dr Hasan Morshed, minister of health and social welfare. At the audience the minister of health and welfare introduced Mr Masih Daneshi as under secretary for treatment and supervisor of rehabilitation and casualties at the ministry.

TEHRAN OFFICIALS DISCOVER CACHE OF 'HARMFUL' BOOKS, EQUIPMENT

ID131900Y Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Dec 78 ID

[Text] According to a dispatch by our correspondent, yesterday afternoon officials from the military governorate of Tehran and vicinity, at a house in Abbasabad Avenue, on the edge of Nilufar, discovered huge quantities of harmful communist and Marxist books and pamphlets, pictures and printing equipment, military uniforms, cartridge belts, soldiers' water bottles, single sleeping bags, field tents, and photographic cameras, several checks totaling 830,000 rials and ready cash amounting to 450,000 rials, and arrested 12 persons who were accused of communist activities.

NATIONAL VOICE OF IRAN: SHAH EXPOSED AS 'IMPERIALIST GENDARME'

ID141202Y National Voice of Iran [Clandestine] in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 16 Nov 78 ID

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear countrymen, with great emphasis U.S. President Carter has declared his support for the shah and, with singular impudence and an improper attitude, clearly stated that the shah is necessary for the protection of U.S. interests in Iran, in the Persian Gulf and in the whole Middle East. British Foreign Secretary Owen, with even greater impudence than Carter, also regards the shah as necessary for the protection of British interests and has clearly stated that if the Shah goes no one else will be able to act as their gendarme in the Persian Gulf. And he tells the British people that if the shah goes, Britain will suffer.

Seldom in a country's history can one see political issues so brazenly and openly exposed in public. Governments and leaders dependent on foreigners usually try to maintain outward appearances in normal circumstances. This is also true with regard to the shah who, until recently, had tried to maintain outward appearances to some degree, pretending to be fully independent and claiming that he had profound ties with the Iranian people. The curtain has been raised now, however, and the shah's masters in London and Washington, in order to defend the shah, have been compelled to set in motion the worst kind of political act and expose the shah completely to the public. In this regard, the British foreign secretary has gone so far as to say that this man--that is, the shah-- has been selling oil on the cheap for a long time, unnecessarily buying arms from Britain, helping Britain's economy, and protecting Britain's interests in the Persian Gulf and implementing its policy in this region.

Now, it would be unethical and unjust if we left him all alone in these difficult days. Here, of course, the ethics referred to concern imperialist and plundering ethics, under which it is not regarded as unethical to deprive 35 million Iranians of their rights, but under which it is regarded as unethical not to interfere in the internal affairs of a country and not to support an agent vis-a-vis the people.

It is clear that imperialist agents in Iran, despite their strict instructions to defend the shah, cannot say exactly what Carter and Owen are saying. To fulfill their mission they are impelled to use a different sort of language. For example, they claim that the shah himself has realized his mistakes, that he has selected better advisers, so to speak, and that, henceforth, this wolf will rule like a lamb. Imperialist agents in Iran try to persuade the Iranian people, as it were, that if they come to terms with the shah and tolerate him there will be liberalization, but that if they engage in a confrontation with the shah this will lead to a military coup d'etat and to even more violence and killings. This threat is constantly broadcast by London radio, which is the mouthpiece of British colonialism. This radio is trying to explain to the Iranian people that unless they accept the imperialist gendarme as head of state and commander in chief of the country's armed forces there will be extensive killings.

The true objective of these maneuvers is clear. Both the shah's [word indistinct] defenders who promise that the shah will be benevolent to the people and the shah's [word indistinct] defenders who openly threaten killings have the same single objective. They want to paralyze the people's will in their decisive struggle against the regime and to bring about an opportunity to mobilize their forces for an onslaught against the people. The shah's policy has always been to seek cover in a storm only to resurface once it has passed. The Iranian people, however, know the shah's cards and those of his imperialist backers, and thus they do not want to leave the regime merely wounded. The people deeply appreciate the fact that the objective of imperialists and their agents in Iran is not to extend democracy but to serve their own interests. If the imperialists and their agents are given the chance, the historic opportunity that has been gained as a result of years of struggle and at a cost of tortures, imprisonment and the blood of tens of thousands of Iranians will be lost. The Iranian people do not want an imperialist gendarme as their ruler. The sound of death to despotism can be heard from the remotest parts of the country.

AFGHANISTAN

KABUL CARRIES COMMUNIQUE ON CUBAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT

PART I

LDT131740Y Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 29 Nov 78 LD

[Text of Afghanistan-Cuba joint communique on Cuban Foreign Minister Isidoro Malmierca's visit to Afghanistan 21-26 November]

[Text] Following an invitation from the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA], the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Cuba, Comrade Isidoro Malmierca, paid an official and friendly visit to the DRA from 21 to 26 November 1978. Accompanying the minister of foreign affairs of Cuba were Fernando Florez Ibarra, director of Non-alinement Division; Rolando Lopez del Amo, director of Asia and Oceanic Division; Rafael Hernandez, vice director of Protocol Division; and Roberto [name indistinct], the minister's personal assistant.

This visit took place in the context of the militant friendship uniting Afghanistan and Cuba and serves as an expression of the fraternal relstions which link both peoples, their parties and governments.

During his stay in Afghanistan the minister of foreign affairs, Isidoro Malmierca, was received by Comrade Nur Mohammad Taraki, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, president of the Revolutionary Council and prime minister, in the course of which Minister Malmierca delivered to him fraternal greetings from the commander in chief, Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and president of the Council of State and of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

Minister Malmierca also met with his colleague, Comrade Hafizollah Amin, vice premier and minister of foreign affairs, and discussed issues concerning the present international situation, particularly those referring to the struggles of the liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America, bearing in mind the common struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid, racism, Zionism and reaction.

Minister Malmierca availed himself of the opportunity to emphasize ties between Cuba and Afghanistan. He recalled the fruitful encounter of commander in chief Fidel Castro with Vice Premier and Minister of Foreign Affairs Hafizollah Amin during the latter's stay in Cuba on the occasion of the sixth meeting of the nonalined countries' arrangements coordinating bureau held at Havana in May 1978, which contributed to further strengthening the existing friendship between both countries and their respective leaders.

On the Afghan side the participants in the talks were Hafizollah Amin, vice premier and minister of foreign affairs; Shah Mohammad Dost, deputy minister for political affairs; Mohammad Mirza Samah, director-general in charge of Economic Relations Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; (Raza) Mohammad Rafiq (Sham'ariz), director Third Political Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Asadollah Matin, director of information, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Abdolmahmud (Shamel), director of Cultural Relations Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Abdolmajid Mangal, deputy director of conferences, United Nations and International Relations Affairs Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Participating in the talks on the Cuban side were Isidoro Malmierca, minister of foreign affiars; Raul Garcia Pelaez, ambassador in Afghanistan; Fernando Florez Ibarra, director of Nonalined Division; Rolando Lopez del Amo, director of Asia and Oceanic [Division]; Rafael Hernandez, vice director of Protocol Division; and (Rodney Lopez), minister counsellor of the Cuban Embassy; and (Manchua Fonuntr), member of the Cuban Embassy in Kabul.

The official talks were held in a fraternal and frank atmosphere. Both sides reviewed their bilateral relations and expressed their complete satisfaction (?with) the ever increasing possibilities provided for the promotion of their friendly and brotherly relations and mutual cooperation after the victory of the April Revolution in Afghanistan.

Both sides reaffirmed their faith in and commitment to the principles of the United Nations Charter, peaceful coexistence and solution of international disputes by peaceful means. Both sides expressed the abiding validity of the policy of nonalinement and the independent, (?peace-building role) of the nonalined movement in international affairs and promotion of understanding among nations.

Dealing with the international situation, both sides were in full agreement that the underlying causes of international tensions which threaten world peace and security were imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism, Zionism, apartheid and expansionism. Both sides underlined the importance of the forthcoming meetings of the coordinating bureau of the nonalined countries to be held in Maputo and Colombo, and reiterated their confidence that these meetings will serve to reaffirm the principles of the movement and the reinforcement of unity and cohesion amongst the nonalined countries. Both ministers expressed their certainty that the sixth summit conference of the nonalined countries' movement will signify an important step in the movement's history and that it will contribute significantly to the movement's cohesion and unity of action in its struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid, racism and Zionism.

The Afghan side expressed its will to cooperate with Cuba and with the other member-countries of the movement in order to make outstanding success of the sixth summit conference to be held at Havana in September 1979.

Both sides strongly condemned the vandalic Rhodesian attacks against Mozambique and Zambia, and expressed (?its) militant and (?unswerving) solidarity with the Mozambique people and (?others who) bravely and firmly repelled these aggressions.

They called on all member-countries of the nonalined movement to maintain their unity in order to hinder the neocolonial designs of imperialism in Africa and hailed the efforts of the frontline states in this [word indistinct].

Both sides agreed that the problems which have emerged in the so-called Horn of Africa and in the Red Sea have been provoked by imperialism and those related to it which stimulate differences between the parties concerned in violation of the OAU Charter, consituting a permanent threat to peace in that part of the world.

Both sides expressed their firm solidarity with the courageous people of Angola and Ethiopia in their heroic struggle to defend their independence and repel foreign aggression.

Both sides called for the elimination of all foreign military bases on the territory of others. They considered these bases as an infringement on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the countries where these bases are located.

The Afghan side further expressed its revolutionary solidarity with Cuba in its continued struggle against imperialism and for insuring its territorial integrity and against all forms of external economic and political pressure.

Both sides expressed their concern (?at) the situation in the Middle East resulting from the policy of aggression, occupation and expansionism of Israel, continued against the Arab and Palestinian people in violation of the United Nations resolutions.

PART II

LD131814Y Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 30 Nov 78 LD

[Text] Both sides expressed their full solidarity with the struggling Palestinian people, truly represented by the Palestinian Liberation Organization. Both sides, considering the Palestinian question as the core of the whole Middle East problem, remained convinced the [word indistinct] understanding or partial agreement will not lead to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East. Both sides called for immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and for the restoration of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the right to establish a national independent state of their own, and (?in the) prevailing circumstances in the area they considered the convening of the Geneva conference on the Middle East with the full participation of the PLO as (?a forum) where acceptable solutions could be found to the problem. Emphasizing the necessity of strengthening the unity of all Arab states and progressive forces in order to reach these objectives, they condemned the imperialists' maneuvers to split the peoples of the region.

They repudiated the unilateral decision of the racist South African Government elections in Namibia. [sentence as heard] They denounced as (?shibboleth) such elections destined to place into power, in (?connivance) with imperialism, despotic regimes insuring the continuance of the South African domination over its territory and they urged the transfer of power to SWAPO, the only legitimate representative of the Namibian people. They demanded the immediate and total withdrawal of South Africa from Namibia, including from Walvis Bay, and the unconditional [word indistinct] of South African claims on that important portion of the Namibian territory.

Both sides called for a real and just solution of the question of Zimbabwe, taking into account the basic position of the Patriotic Front, the only legitimate representative of the people of Zimbabwe, thus foiling the colonialistic attempts to retain power with the racist white minority regime of Southern Rhodesia.

Both sides (?expressed) their (?unswerving) support to the South African people struggling to be the master of its own destiny under the direction of the African National Congress, representative of the aspirations of the exploited masses of South Africa, and condemned the inhumanity of the apartheid system established there by the racist regime.

Both sides supported the right of self-determination and independence of the people of Western Sahara and its liberation front of POLISARIO, expressed the hope that a peaceful solution would be found to the problem with the cooperation of the Organization of African Unity.

Both sides reiterated their support to make the Indian Ocean and its natural extension a zone of peace, reaffirming that the military bases existing in the zone constitute a threat to peace, security and the legitimate interests of the people of the region.

Both parties are in favor of the struggle of the Korean people for the independence and pacific reunification of their country, free of foreign interference.

Both sides expressed their support to the principled position of the Socialist Vietnam and firm solidarity with the heroic people of Vietnam in their continued struggle aimed at consolidating their independence and reconstructing their country.

With regard to the Latin American problems, both sides condemned the existence of dictatorial regimes which continue their violations of the rights and freedoms of their peoples and the massacre, bloodshed and imprisonment of their helpless citizens. Both sides condemned Chile's fascist regime and the policy of terror established by the military junta. Both sides expressed their concern about the human rights violations in Nicaragua and strongly condemned the inhuman (?actions) against the working oppressed people of Nicaragua with the backing of imperialism.

Both sides expressed their concern at the slow process of decolonization in territories still under colonial and alien domination. They called for the immediate implementation of the United Nations declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples in these remaining territories. In this connection they reaffirmed their support of the resolutions adopted by the United Nations decolonization committee with regard to these territories, including Puerto Rico.

Both sides expressed the hope that the only political difference between Afghanistan and Pakistan on the national issue of Pushtun and Baluchi people would be settled by peaceful means and through negotiations and in an atmosphere of friendship.

Both sides reiterated their support for general and complete disarmament, detente, peaceful coexistence and the struggle of all peoples still under colonial and alien domination for their right to self-determination and independence.

Both sides urged that the special measures taken by the international committee in favor of the landlocked and least developed countries because of their special problems would be implemented without delay.

Both sides also noted how important and opportune was the declaration on the deepening of the process of detente and relaxation of international tensions adopted by the United Nations. In this connection they commended the USSR and other countries of the socialist community for their contribution and for the active role they continue to play in the strengthening of peace.

Both sides discussed the means and ways for developing and deepening the links between their peoples and their governments.

The Cuban side expressed its (?determined) support to the revolutionary steps taken by the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in conformity with the basic lines of revolutionary duty for the benefit of its working people and hailed the success of the revolution against the reactionary and antirevolutionary elements.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction with regard to the results of the talks in which an identity of opinion was reached on the main issues of common interest. Both sides considered that the outcome of the visit had contributed to the strengthening and deepening of the friendly and cooperative relations existing between the two countries.

DELEGATION OF SOVIET PLANNING EXPERTS ARRIVES IN KABUL

LDT131700Y Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 30 Nov 78 LD

[Text] The planning experts delegation of the Soviet Union for the cooperation (?in) the preparation of the first 5-year development plan of Afghanistan arrived in Kabul yesterday. The delegation was received at Kabul airport by Fateh Mohammed Karim, deputy minister of planning, departmental heads of the ministry and some members of the Soviet Embassy in Kabul.

CSSR PUBLIC HEALTH MINISTER ARRIVES, SIGNS AGREEMENT

LDT131706Y Kabul in English to South Asia 1400 GMT 30 Nov 78 LD

[Summary] Dr Shah Wali, minister of public health, met the Czechoslovak minister of public health in his office yesterday. The Czechoslovak minister and his delegation arrived in Kabul yesterday. Dr Shah Wali held a reception for his guests last night.

"The agreement on health affairs between the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia was signed in Kabul this morning. The signatories [words indistinct] were Dr Shah Wali, the minister of public health, and the Czechoslovak (counterpart), [name indistinct]. The agreement, which will be valid for 5 years, includes cooperation in health affairs, exchange of experience, the training of Afghan personnel in Czechoslovakia, employment of Czechoslovak experts in Afghanistan and active participation in some public health projects between the two countries."

The BAKHTAR correspondent adds that the two ministers expressed hope that the friendly Afghan-Czechoslovak relations would be further consolidated.

AFP REPORTS GOVERNMENT PLANNING MAJOR LAND REFORM

OW131833Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1815 GMT 13 Dec 78 OW

[By Jean-Francois le Mounier]

[Text] Islamabad, Dec 13 (AFP)--Major land reform to eliminate "feudalism and pre-feudalism" is being planned by the Afghanistan Government, it was learned here. Families will be allowed no more than six hectares in acres of good land each in share-out scheme adopted by president Nur Mohammad Taraki's Revolutionary Council, reports reaching here said.

Landowners who resist risk imprisonment and confiscation of all their property, according to a decree of the council which took power by a military coup on April 27.

Family holdings in the decree category covering vineyards and irrigated land with a twice annual harvest will be restricted to six hectares. Those with holdings of land only occasionally (?used) will be permitted up to 60 hectares (150 acres). The government will requesition land beyond these limits without compensation and redistribute it to "poor farmers and agricultural workers", the reports said.

BANGLADESH

DEMOCRATIC PARTY TO PARTICIPATE IN ELECTIONS

BK131709Y Dacca Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The convener of the Bangladesh Democratic Party in a statement today said that his party has decided to participate in the coming parliamentary elections.

The Communist Party of Bangladesh, at a public meeting in Dacca today, however, demanded fulfillment of certain conditions for the creation of what it called a congenial atmosphere for the polls.

INDIA

IRANIAN STUDENTS IN DELHI OCCUPY CULTURAL CENTER

BK131614Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Dec 78 BK

[Text] About 80 Iranian students forcibly occupied the Iranian Cultural Center in New Delhi, demanding release of prisoners in their country. They locked themselves in along with eight Indian employees and the cultural counsellor.

An External Affairs Ministry official went to talk to them and eventually succeeded in persuading them to release all the hostages.

SINGAPORE'S LEE KUAN YEW MEETS WITH DESAI, VAJPAYEE

BK131612Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Dec 78 BK

[Text] At their talks in New Delhi today, the prime ministers of India and Singapore emphasized the need for the developing countries to fight jointly the growing protectionist trends of the developed world. The two sides recognized that it is in their common interest to put the protectionist forces on the defensive. Besides economic questions, the Singapore prime minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew, and Mr Morarji Desai had an extensive exchange of views on the international situation, particularly developments in Southwest Asia. Several senior ministers from both sides were also present at the talks.

Mr Desai assured Mr Lee Juan Yew that India is willing to develop relations with the ASEAN countries as an (?entity).

Mr Vajpayee, who had a separate meeting with the visiting prime minister, told him about India's efforts to improve relations with its neighbors. Developments in Sino-Indian relations were also touched upon and views exchanged on the recent flurry of diplomatic visits by Chinese and Vietnamese leaders to the countries of the region.

Mr Lee Kuan Yew told newsmen that his talks with Indian leaders covered common problems in the field of trade, bilateral relations and strengthening the nonalined movement.

Desai Hosts Banquet

OW131915Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1900 GMT 13 Dec 78 OW

[Text] New Delhi, 13 Dec (AFP)--Singapore wants peaceful coexistence with all the communist states to its north, Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew said here tonight.

Replying to Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai's toast at a banquet, Mr Lee said Singapore was startled by a sharp clash between two communist states to its north though at present it was confined to the Indochinese Peninsula.

He said Singapore always found a "reliable and steadfast friend" in India. By its commitment to non-communism and non-alignment, India had become a natural friend of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). Many changes had overtaken the world especially in South and Southeast Asia since his last visit to India seven years ago, the Singapore leader added.

Earlier, Mr Desai sought the cooperation of countries in South and Southeast Asia in creating a zone of peace free from elements "seeking opportunities in our waters for ventilating their rivalries and practising their power politics."

He said there was a great awakening in the countries of this region and was confident that Asia had at last emerged from its slumber and apathy to a "realisation of its own potentialities and its own place in world polity."

Mr Desai welcomed ASEAN as a legitimate manifestation of the desire of the states in Southeast Asia to come closer to one another. He hoped that in due course this cooperation would extend to the entire Southeast Asia region overcoming the tensions prevailing in Indochina.

DELHI REPORTS VISIT BY SRV OIL MINISTER

BK131106Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Dec 78 BK

[Text] Vietnamese Oil Minister Dinh Duc Thien has said in New Delhi that his country would like to share India's experience in developing her own oil industry. Mr Thien, who is on a 10-day visit to India, expressed the hope that his visit will mark the beginning of cooperation between the two countries in the field of oil. Vietnam has shown keen interest in seeking India's help in its oil exploration program, both offshore and onshore.

Welcoming Mr Thien, Petroleum Minister Bahuguna said India would be willing to offer all assistance to Vietnam, which after the prolonged struggle against the colonial rule is now engaged in national reconstruction.

RAM DENIES ANY PLANS TO PRODUCE ICBM'S

BK131104Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 13 Dec 78 BK

[Text] There is no proposal by the government to produce intercontinental ballistic missiles. However, the development and production of other missiles of shorter range carrying conventional warheads is part of India's normal defense plans and programs. This was stated by Defense Minister Jagjivan Ram in the lower house of parliament today.

DEFENSE TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT TO BE REPLACED

BK140857Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 14 Dec 78 BK

[Text] The government has decided to phase out the present fleet of transport aircraft in the Defence Ministry. Instead, modern planes will be acquired to suit the requirements of the defense forces. This information was given in the Rajya Sabha by the minister of state for defense, Mr Sher Singh.

In reply to another question, he said each family of the victims in the recent air crash at Leh was given 100,000 rupees as compensation.

GANDHI DENIES BREACH OF PRIVILEGE CHARGE

BK131308Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 13 Dec 78 BK

[Text] Mrs Gandhi categorically denied in the Lok Sabha that she has committed any breach of privilege of the house. Speaking during the resumed debate on the issue, Mrs Gandhi argued that the charges levelled against her are untenable and there is no evidence to hold her guilty. In a 30-minute speech, punctuated by angry interruptions from members, she accused the ruling party of trying to convert the house into a medieval trial chamber.

Protesting against this, Mr Shahnandan Mishra, Janata, complained that Mrs Gandhi was casting reflections on the proceedings of the house and urged the speaker to expunge her remarks. The speaker ruled out the objection.

In her speech, Mrs Gandhi questioned the procedure followed by the Privileges Committee. She said the action taken against certain officers had nothing to do with the collection of information for the parliamentary question on Maruti [Sanjay Gandhi's company].

Mr M.N. Govindan Nair, CPI, said Mrs Gandhi had committed a very serious mistake in preventing the house from getting the information it wanted. She was also not fair to the Privileges Committee. Mr Nair pleaded that the house should be magnanimous in awarding her the minimum punishment by reprimanding her.

1,000 ARRESTED FOR DEMONSTRATING NEAR PARLIAMENT

BK131616Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Dec 78 BK

[Text] Over 1,000 farmers, including women, from Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana and Delhi were arrested under Section 144 [banning assembly of five or more persons] near Parliament House in New Delhi today. They were taking part in a rally organized by All-India Kissan Sangarsh Samity [Farmers Struggle Committee]. They were demanding fixation of higher prices for cotton and wheat and redistribution of grazing land allotted for cultivation to Harijans in Punjabwala village near Delhi.

BRIEFS

IRAQI OIL TO PAKISTAN--An agreement has been signed between the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Resources and the National Oil Company of Iraq under which crude oil will be purchases from Iraq for the Karachi Oil Refinery. Under the agreement, 15,000 barrels of oil will be sent to Karachi Oil Refinery daily during 1979, payments for which may be made after 60 days, and no freight charge will be levied. [Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 9 Dec 78 BK]